FBIS **DAILY REPORT**
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9 July Middle East and South Asia Review

LD091319 [Editorial Report]

Iran-Iraq War

A 9 July attack by an Iranian gunboat on a large U.S.-owned oil tanker was "clearly made in retaliation for at least two Iraqi attacks on oil tankers in the Persian Gulf during the current week," Tehran radio stated. Citing an AP report, the radio noted that the Liberian-registered tanker was hit by missiles fired by an Iranian gunboat 100 km off the Kuwaiti coast. The ship was set on fire and sent out distress signals. In a related report, IDF radio said the tanker was being towed toward Bahrain after the fire aboard was brought under control.

The Iranian attack followed INA's announcement that Iraqi aircraft scored "destructive hits" in an 8 July raid on a tanker holding area east of Khark Island. An Iraqi military spokesman said the recent air strikes fall within the framework of Iraq's "legitimate right" to attack Iranian economic installations, INA noted. The agency also cited a Lloyds report that a Singaporean salvage ship near Khark Island was "severely damaged" by an Iraqi missile 7 July. For Iran's part, IRNA reported that over the past 2 days "heavy Iranian naval fire" damaged Iraq's Al-Bakr and Al-Amaya oil platforms.

Regarding action on the various battlefronts, IRNA said that Iraqi forces suffered "scores" of casualties when Iran shelled positions in the southern operational areas. A military communique reported by the agency noted that six civilians were killed and five others wounded when Iraqi warplanes bombed a village near Sar Dasht 7 July.

Turkey

Twenty people including 13 children were killed in terrorist raids on two villages in Mardin Province the night of 8 July, Ankara radio reported. A large-scale operation was mounted to apprehend the killers and Prime Minister Turgut Ozal canceled his engagements in order to visit the two villages.

Lebanon

Damascus Talks — Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and the visiting Lebanese Islamic delegation held talks on recent developments, including Prime Minister Rashid Karami's assassination, "which so far has not been dealt with in the way it deserves," Damascus radio stated. The conferees agreed that finding and punishing the perpetrators and planners of the crime is a "top priority political issue with which any future political move is linked." Acting Prime Minister Salim al-Huss subsequently stressed the "unanimous" view of the conferees that unravelling the crime and punishing the culprit is "quite indispensable and must not be overlooked," Beirut radio reported.

Glass Threat — The "Organization of Right Against Falsehood," one of two groups which claimed responsibility for kidnapping Charles Glass, threatened to send Glass "to hell" unless "imperialism" responds to its demands within 48 hours, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported. The demands include "noninterference" in Gulf affairs and removal of U.S. flags from oil tankers as well as the payment of 10 million dollars "ransom" for the "people" in Lebanon.

Israel

Denial of North Allegation — Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir denied U.S. Lieutenant Colonel Oliver North's allegation that Israel may have initiated the idea of diverting profits from the Iranian arms sales to the Nicaraguan contras, Jerusalem radio reported.

Knesset Rejection of Amnesty — Prime Minister Shamir's support for a proposal to amnesty Jewish underground prisoners aroused surprise because his vote ran counter to the cabinet position opposing the bill, Jerusalem radio stated, adding that the bill was defeated by 69 to 40 votes. Mapam and the Progressive List for Peace responded to Shamir's vote for the amnesty by submitting motions of no-confidence in the government, Jerusalem television disclosed.

Talks With Hungary — The Foreign Ministry assistant director general has held talks with a senior Hungarian Foreign Ministry official in Vienna on the establishment of low-level diplomatic relations between the two countries, *Ha'aretz* reported, noting that the Hungarians are considering establishing an interest office in Israel.

Sudan

John Garang's rebel forces kidnapped three Americans and one Briton 7 July, a "security source" told SUNA, adding that the four foreigners worked near Juba for a private relief organization.

Daily Highlights 'Main Points' of PLO-Soviet Talks
JN081808 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic
7 Jul 87 p 19

[Unattributed "exclusive" report from Moscow within the "International Reports" feature]

[Text] Moscow — Leading Palestinian sources have described the discussions between Soviet officials and Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, during his recent visit to Moscow as head of a Palestinian delegation as "the most important talks between the two sides in a long time." Commenting on the visit, these sources said that it had confirmed an almost identical understanding by the PLO and the Soviet leadership on most issues on the agenda concerning the Palestinian issue. Coming as it does after the Algiers PNC session, which the Soviet Union helped to bring about, the visit indicates that "the Palestinian and Soviet sides are eager to coordinate their policies" on the main issues in the Arab-Israeli dispute and with regard to the current situation in the Middle East.

Qaddumi visited Moscow late last month leading a PLO Executive Committee delegation composed of Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh of the DFLP, Abu 'Ali Mustafa [Mustafa al-Zibri] of the PFLP, and Sulayman al-Najjab of the Palestinian Communist Party. The delegation met with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, a number of party and state officials, and officials from the Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee.

The Palestinian sources say the main points of discussion at these talks and meetings were the following:

1. The PNC resolutions in Algiers. The Soviet side expressed "support" for these resolutions and "happiness" over the affirmation of PLO unity manifested at the session, as well as the establishment of a basis for joint Palestinian action politically, militarily and organizationally in the next stage.

2. The international conference for peace in the Middle East. The talks demonstrated "completely identical views" between the two sides. The Palestinian delegation informed the Soviet officials that the PLO strongly supports the idea of an international conference, regarding it as a "comprehensive framework" for settling the Arab-Israeli dispute on the basis of "PLO participation in the conference as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people" and recognizing Palestinian rights, including the right to establish an independent Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The Soviet side responded by "supporting this position," voicing the conviction that "the international conference for peace is the best and only framework by which the Middle East dispute can be settled permanently and justly." The Soviet side reiterated its commitment to the principle that "the PLO should participate in the conference along with the other parties concerned and the five permanent UN Security Council members."

3. Palestinian-Syrian relations. The Soviet side reiterated its "desire to settle Syrian-Palestinian differences" and expressed its commitment to "continue its efforts to achieve the desired reconciliation between the Syrian and PLO leaderships," especially between President Hafiz al-Asad and Yasir 'Arafat, in order to "revive the Syrian-Palestinian alliance as a nucleus for a broader Arab alliance that can confront the dangers and challenges in the Middle East."

For its part, the Palestinian delegation reiterated "the PLO's readiness and desire to repair relations with Syria" on the basis of the "principles adopted by the PNC." In this context, the delegation pointed to what it termed "an intransigent Syrian position that has not yet helped reach the desired formula to achieve an understanding between the two sides." The delegation also asked the Soviet Union "to try harder to persuade the Syrian leadership to take a more flexible position on the PLO and its leadership, which the Soviet Union promised to do."

4. The current Palestinian political moves. The Soviet side expressed "its deep satisfaction with what it termed the PLO's methods on both the Arab and international levels." The Soviets informed the Palestinian delegation of "their support for the political dialogue held by the Palestinians with the Israeli forces supporting peace," which began in Bucharest, the Romanian capital, and continued in Budapest, the Hungarian capital. It also views such meetings as "a positive factor that should continue." The Soviet side referred to the PLO's relations with Arab countries and expressed "its satisfaction with the PLO's efforts, since the PNC session, to improve its relations with Egypt, Jordan, and Morocco." It also called for "a minimum Arab solidarity" instead of the state of fragmentation in the Arab region, which the Soviet Union believes "contributes to the Arabs' weakness and failure to confront the surrounding dangers."

5. Soviet Jewish emigration. The Palestinian delegation referred to the Arabs' concern over the growing number of Jewish emigrants allowed by the Soviet authorities to leave for Israel. The Soviet side stressed that this issue "is purely a Soviet domestic affair and has nothing to do with the Soviet leadership's position on the Arab-Israeli conflict or the issue of Palestinian rights." The Soviet side also said that the emigration of Jews or other Soviet citizens is "a social and humanitarian issue governed by Soviet laws" and that the number of emigrants allowed by the Soviet authorities to leave the Soviet Union "will not, in any case, exceed the limits permitted by law." The Soviet side added that the Soviet authorities "study every application for emigration to determine whether it should be approved or not."

6. Soviet-Israeli contacts. The Soviet side stressed that the main goal of these talks was to convince Israel of accepting the idea of holding an international conference and of Soviet and PLO participation in this conference. The Soviet officials reiterated what they called their "firm stand on the issue of restoring diplomatic ties with Israel," a stand which stipulates that these ties cannot be restored before the causes which led to their severance are removed. Therefore, Moscow will not think of restoring these ties before an official Israeli declaration is made expressing the desire to find a permanent settlement for the Middle East conflict based on withdrawal from occupied territory and recognizing the Palestinian people's legitimate rights. This cannot be done except through an international conference.

7. Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Moscow. The Palestinian sources believe that such a visit is now a strong possibility after the Palestinian delegation's visit to Moscow and the positive talks

between the two sides. These sources say that the Soviet side "was still hesitant to issue an invitation to 'Arafat to pay an official visit to the USSR." This was mainly due to "Moscow's care not to give the impression that the Soviet Union is taking an anti-Syrian stand, given that relations between 'Arafat and Al-Asad are still practically nonexistent. The sources say that the Palestinian side reminded the Soviet officials that their conditions for issuing an invitation to 'Arafat have been met. These included holding the PNC session, unifying the Palestinian resistance factions, and canceling the Amman agreement. Therefore, there is nothing to prevent Moscow from issuing such an official invitation to 'Arafat.

As for relations with Syria, the Palestinian side noted that the obstacles on the road to improving Syrian-Palestinian relations are not placed by the PLO but by Syria, which is still adopting a very hardline attitude toward the PLO and its leadership. The Soviet officials indirectly admitted this when they told the Palestinian side that their mediation to effect reconciliation between the PLO and the Syrian leadership, which was still continuing, had succeeded in realizing a slow progress that is not enough to restore normal PLO-Syria relations. This was the result of a limited response from Syria. The sources said that the Soviet officials welcome the PLO Executive Committee chairman in Moscow at any time he wishes. These officials promised that an official invitation will be addressed to 'Arafat through diplomatic channels and that the visit will take place as soon as possible.

8. The current Soviet Mideast policy. Commenting on the Palestinian leadership's impression of Soviet policy toward the Middle East, a Palestinian source said: "The Soviet Union's top priority in the Middle East now is to establish its presence in the region as a superpower which no other side, be it regional or international, can ignore or bypass.

The Palestinian source referred to the Soviet stand on an international conference, stressing that the Soviets consider the conference a "Soviet issue in the first place" and that Moscow aims through the conference to "prevent the United States from dealing separately with the Middle East," for this would mean "isolating the Soviet Union from developments in the region." This is "what Moscow cannot allow due to vital strategic considerations." For this reason the Soviet Union "is currently strongly stressing the need to hold an international conference."

The Palestinian source added that this strategic Soviet priority explains all Moscow's current political approaches to Middle East and Arab issues. The Soviet Union insists on "reactivating the Syrian-Palestinian alliance," given Moscow is convinced that "Syria would not have a role in an international conference without the PLO, which also has no role in such a conference without Syria."

The Soviet stand on the Iraq-Iran war also proceeds from the same considerations. "The Soviets asked the Syrian leadership to break up its alliance with Iran." This is because Moscow's analysis says that "Iran will end up as a U.S. and Western satellite." This Soviet analysis depends on the Iranian stand on the situation in Iran and on what the Soviets consider the "Iranian policy which intentionally, or unintentionally, contributed toward bringing a strong U.S. and Western presence in the Arab Gulf region."

Continuing his analysis of the current Soviet policy in the Arab Gulf, the Palestinian source said that the Soviet leadership told President al-Asad during his recent visit to Moscow that Moscow is still "completely committed toward enabling Syria to achieve its objective to reach a state of strategic balance with Israel." However, the Soviet leadership affirmed to the Syrian side that "its understanding of strategic balance is not confined to supplying the Syrian forces with their weapons needs and military aid," which is still continuing, but that such a balance should also include "the need to improve Syria's internal and Arab position."

To achieve this, Syria is required to "activate its internal economic situation, purge the Syrian administration of obstacles, open up to Arab countries, especially Iraq, Jordan, and Egypt, establish an alliance with the PLO, and stand alongside the PLO and nationalist forces in Lebanon, especially the PSP and the Lebanese Communist Party."

From the same premise, Moscow expressed resolve to "continue to support Iraq in its war with Iran and to have a strong presence in the Gulf" through accepting to "lease Soviet oil tankers to Kuwait and provide military protection for these tankers against any attack they might be subjected to by the Iranian forces."

The Palestinian source added that the Soviet Union is currently stressing the need for "achieving reconciliation among the various Arab parties starting with Iraq and Syria and ending with Syria and the PLO," provided this is a "prelude to convening an Arab summit conference capable of reaching a unified Arab position on the region's issues." The Soviet Union believes that reaching such a position would constitute "the first required step to make the convocation of an international conference possible," in a manner providing "the minimum level of success opportunities for this conference."

Abdelghani, Iranian Foreign Minister Discuss Gulf

LD081704 Tehran IRNA in English 1430 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] Algiers, July 8, IRNA — Visiting Iranian Foreign Minister for Political Affairs Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam met with Algeria's high presidential advisor Mohammad Ben Ahmad Abdelghani, here Tuesday.

Sheykh ol-Eslam who is here to participate in ceremonies marking Algeria's 25th independence anniversary (July 5) conferred with the Algerian official on ways to expand bilateral relations, issues of mutual interest between the two countries as well as situation of the Persian Gulf region.

Minister Departs

LD081715 Tehran IRNA in English 1647 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] Algiers, July 8, IRNA — Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister for Political Affairs Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam left here on Wednesday afternoon.

Sheykh ol-Eslam met with Algeria's high presidential advisor, minister of information as well as other Algerian officials. He also conferred with heads of some foreign delegations including China's minister of oil, West Germany's minister of state, Saudi Arabia's minister of state as well as Ghana's vice-president on issues of mutual interest between Iran and the said countries.

The Iranian Foreign Ministry official was here to participate in ceremonies marking the 25th independence anniversary of Algeria.

Bendjedid, Abdelghani Meet Before Mauritania Visit

LD081710 Algiers APS in English 1328 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] Algeria, 8/7/87 (APS) — The president of the Republic Chadli Bendjedid received Tuesday here the state minister at the Presidency, Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani on the eve of his departure for Nouakchott as special envoy bearing a message to the Mauritanian head of state, Lieutenant-Colonel Maaouya Ould Sid' Ahmed Taya.

Austria's Blecha Meets 'Arafat, Concludes Visit

AU090940 Vienna WIENER ZEITUNG in German 9 Jul 87 p 2

[Text] According to a press release, Interior Minister Blecha's visit to Algeria, in which SPOe [Socialist Party of Austria] Bundesrat Deputy Albert Konecny and former Foreign Minister Lanc also participated, concluded yesterday with "outstanding success" for Austria.

Blecha and his Algerian counterpart Al-Khdayr concluded agreements on cooperation in criminal investigations and intelligence activities.

In addition to talks with Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid and Cherif Massaadia, a responsible official in the governing National Liberation Front Party, a great deal of time was devoted to talks with government members responsible for economic issues. Large-scale orders for Austrian enterprises, particularly for the VOEST nationalized steel company, are being contemplated.

After more than 10 years of steadily expanding relations between the two countries, Austrian imports declined by 51 percent last year. During the first half of 1987, Austria's exports also declined. Among other things, continuation of railroad cooperation beyond the government agreement was secured.

Blecha also had an exchange of views with PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat.

Egyptian Delegation Arrives for Meeting

AB081720 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1330 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] A Chadian-Egyptian joint commission session will begin this afternoon at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation. The proceedings will cover all aspects of cooperation between our two countries — economic, commercial, financial, technical, cultural, and scientific. Experts from both states will also examine questions pertaining to transportation, communications, and agriculture.

The Egyptian delegation, which arrived in our capital early this morning, is led by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali. Cooperation between Chad and Egypt will certainly be strengthened following the Ndjamena meeting.

During his technical stopover yesterday in Paris, Butrus Ghali told reporters that he is also the bearer of a message from Egyptian head of state Muhammad Husni Mubarak to his Chadian counterpart, Hissein Habre.

The Chadian delegation to the Chadian-Egyptian joint commission is led by the head of Chadian diplomacy, Gouara Lassou.

Joint Commission Meeting Opens

AB082140 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Excerpts] Gouara Lassou, the minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, and Butrus Ghali, the Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, opened the deliberations of the second meeting of the Egypt-Chad joint commission in Ndjamena this afternoon. Since the joint commission was set up in 1984, Egypt has always shown its readiness to help our country in the areas of education and health.

In his opening speech, the Chadian foreign minister expressed satisfaction with the efforts being made in the country by the Egyptian technical assistants who, he said, spare no effort in discharging their duties. The present session will not only help assess what has been done so far since 1984, but will also allow for an exchange of views on all aspects of bilateral cooperation; that is, in the economic, commercial, financial, transport, and communications sectors. The other fields include the technical, cultural, scientific, and judical sectors. [passage omitted]

As for the Egyptian minister, he spoke first about bilateral relations within the framework of South-South cooperation. He then stated that it is only by joining hands and (?strengthening) bilateral, regional, or continental cooperation that OAU members, as developing countries, can ensure their own development in the present world economic order where only economic interests matter. [passage omitted]

ADB Official Arrives, Meets Cabinet Officials

AB070625 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 6 Jul 87

[Text] African Development Bank [ADB] Vice President T. Gedamu, who arrived yesterday in Ndjamena, began a series of talks with Cabinet members this morning. He was received at 1700 this afternoon by (Cherif Congone), permanent secretary at the presidential office. Earlier in the morning, Mr Gedamu met with the ministers of agriculture and rural development, finance and computerization, and livestock and rural water supplies. The ADB vice president also held talks with the following heads of ministerial departments: public works, housing and urban development, and mines and energy.

At 1200, Mr Gedamu met with Soumaila Mahamat, minister delegate at the presidency for planning. [Words indistinct] the ADB vice president discussed with his hosts all the problems connected with Chad's development and reconstruction. The discussions also dealt with projects financed by the African financial institution in Chad, as well as the achievements that have been made.

The ADB vice president was expected to tour Ndjamena this afternoon together with the mayor of the city. He will thus have the opportunity to visit the uncompleted works of [name indistinct] with the director general of public works.

Habre Receives Gabonese Party Executive Secretary

AB082208 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] (Leon Odje), the executive secretary of the Gabonese Democratic Party [PDG], was received for more than 1 hour today by head of state President Hissein Habre in the presence of Foreign Minister Gouara Lassou, the executive secretary of the National Union for Independence and Revolution [UNIR]. Following the meeting, Mr (Odje) stated that their discussions had centered on PDG-UNIR relations.

[Begin recording] [(Odje)] I have just paid a courtesy call on the head of state. The discussions we held centered on relations between the Chadian and Gabonese parties.

[Reporter] After this meeting, can we expect some developments in the relations between the UNIR and the PDG?

[(Odje)] Well, our relations are already very good. However, exchanges are necessary from time to time because you have experience in the [passage indistinct]. [end recording]

Security Tightened at U.S., Israeli Facilities

NC081029 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 7 Jul 87 p 1

[Text] Cairo — *Al-Sharq al-Awsat* — The Interior Ministry has moved to tighten security measures at all sites housing U.S. and Israeli interests following reports that certain groups have assigned military-trained personnel to undertake vengeful and criminal operations against the United States and Israel.

Egyptian security services recently received information that a certain group dispatched some of its members, who had received military training in special camps, to infiltrate into the country on forged passports with the purpose of conducting reprisal attacks against U.S. and Israeli facilities.

A security source at the Interior Ministry said that officials at Egyptian ports, airports, and other border entry points have been instructed to watch foreigners and political suspects more closely, to scrutinize travel documents more thoroughly, and to deal strictly with any person suspected of trying to enter the country illegally.

According to the same source, security services in charge of protecting Israeli and U.S. ships, planes, shipping agencies, and airline companies have been instructed to tighten the security measures applied at these facilities. Airline passengers arriving from Beirut, Sanaa, and Larnaca are currently being given thorough searches, and all passengers are regularly required to identify their baggage near the planes after landing. Bomb disposal experts have also been inspecting cars arriving at Egyptian ports to ascertain whether they contain any explosives or weapons.

In addition, more patrols are being conducted at airport terminals, especially around the El Al and TWA offices, and security has been strengthened at the embassies of both countries. U.S. and Israeli diplomats are also being provided with protection for fear of any terrorist attacks on them.

The source added that there are several countries trying to destabilize Egypt by sending or commissioning terrorist groups to carry out attacks inside the country. Details about the members of an extremist group who have been arrested and who had received foreign financing will be disclosed soon, the source promised.

President Mubarak Arrives in Yugoslavia 7 Jul

For media coverage of President Husni Mubarak's official visit to Yugoslavia, including his talks with Lazar Mojov, president of the SFRY Presidency, and Branko Mikulic, president of the Federal Executive Council, see the Yugoslavia section of the 9 July East Europe *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

Iranian Terms for Freeing Prisoners Rejected

PM081133 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 6 Jul 87 pp 1,11

['Abd al-Nabi 'Abd al-Sattar Report: "Egypt Rejects Iran's Conditions Set for Freeing 3,000 Egyptian Prisoners of War"]

[Text] Egypt has refused to respond to the Iranian Government's conditions for freeing the more than 3,066 Egyptians detained in Iranian prisons: 66 Egyptian fishermen who were arrested inside Kuwaiti territorial waters and more than 3,000 Egyptian prisoners, who had volunteered to fight with the Iraqi Armed Forces but were arrested during operations on the two Iraqi islands of Khark and Majnun.

Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i issued a decision in January to free 16 Egyptian sailors being detained in Tehran prison provided direct contacts were made between Cairo and Tehran, that Egypt presented an official request to the Iranian Government for the release of the Egyptian prisoners, and that Egypt should stop supplying Iraq with equipment and arms. The Egyptian Government asked Pakistani President Ziaul Haq and Sudanese Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi to mediate and persuade the Iranian authorities to free all prisoners and detainees from Iranian prisons. *Al-Wafd* has learned that Egypt has informed Iran through its embassy in Pakistan that all arms and military equipment Iraq receives are completely defensive. Some political circles had previously estimated the number of Egyptians who had volunteered to fight with the Iraqi forces to be about 20,000. *Al-Wafd* has also learned that one of the Egyptians invited to attend the celebrations of the anniversary of the Islamic revolution had in fact made personal contacts with Ayatollah Khomeyni regarding the Egyptian prisoners, especially civilians whom investigations have proved innocent of the charge of spying for Iraq.

Al-Wafd has also learned that last March, the Egyptian Government discussed with the head of the Iranian Interests Office in Cairo, before he was deported, the Iranian Government's position with regard to the losses of the Egypt-Iran spinning and weaving company in Suez; the Iranians agreed to support the company with approximately $50 million. Iran freed all Sudanese prisoners, totaling 500, after the negotiations Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi undertook with Iranian authorities.

AL-SHA'B Criticizes Government Treatment of PLO

PM081053 Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 30 Jun 87 p 7

[Mahmud Bakri article: "Egyptian Policy's Dilemma; Egypt-Palestine... and Absent Facts"]

[Text] The Egyptian administration has for some time been haphazardly applying its regional and international policies: The minute it extricates itself from one dilemma, it falls into a deeper one, to the point where the rumor that Egyptian foreign policy lacks a program and a clear strategic vision has become true. It is not strange to see this contradiction in positions between the decisionmakers in the President's Office and the Foreign Ministry, and sometimes among the security services as well. Every quarter tends to have its own assessments and anal-

yses, which can reach the point of total contradiction with another quarter.

Such contradictions have produced policies shrouded in secrecy, as well as distorted positions to the point where the Egyptian leadership has found itself unable to justify some of the decisions it has adopted. The best example of this is the decision to close down the PLO offices in Cairo. This in turn now raises an urgent and essential question: Why the insistence on this illogical stubbornness? For the the PLO's part, it has provided everything to prove its good intentions toward the regime; and the best proof of that is the statement issued by the PLO Executive Committee in Tunis a few weeks ago. This also prompts us to ask about the Egyptian Government's true stand toward the PLO and, indeed, the Palestinian people's cause in general.

Those who have observed the course of Egyptian foreign policy over the past years will undoubtedly conclude that the rulers in Egypt want to deal with the Arab region in the spirit of greatness, as a leader and a pioneer, not realizing that leadership has a price. For decades Egypt has maintained its leadership of the Arab region through the adoption of pan-Arabism, the fight against foreign influence, and the struggle against Israel in more than one position. Therefore, it has deservedly maintained that leadership. All the people in the Arab region have cooperated with Egypt because it was not content with simply raising the slogan of leadership; it also put it into practice.

The question that imposes itself in this context is: Is it in Egypt's interest to continue acting at random rather that interacting with the Arab and Islamic reality?

Some have for years been raising the slogan: Egypt first. But even according to such a logic of selfishness it is assumed that anyone wanting to preserve Egypt first must extend his hand to the Arabs in general and Palestine in particular, in the sense that gambling on one's own interests depends on finding ways to preserve them. Such ways can be secured by dealing with the Arabs. If we need economic aid, then Arab aid is the best, the most beneficial, and the least harmful. If we want foreign investment, then Arab investment should be given priority. If we want to export expertise, then it is widely known that the Arab region is now in urgent need of it.

If political support is needed in international circles, then Arab support is undoubtedly guaranteed.

In this context the idea of Egyptian "grace and favor" to the Palestinians remains as unacceptable as the idea of anyone's belittling Egypt's status. This will probably prompt us to consider the following point: Through organized and suspicious campaigns, some people have put about the suggestion that Egypt fought for the sake of Palestine, that Egypt has beggared itself for the sake of Palestine, and that Egypt has suffered anxiety, distress, and grief for the sake of Palestine. This is wrong, indeed very wrong, even according to the logic of Egypt's interest.

The idea of fighting Israel for the sake of Palestine only supports the views of Egypt's rivals, since such an idea would allow them, first, to hold Egypt responsible for all previous wars and, second, to ignore the Israeli threat to Egypt, regardless of the Palestinian cause.

On this basis, Egyptian policy, regardless of the Palestinian dimension in the Arab-Israeli conflict, must be fully aware of the Israeli Zionist threat, since it is in no one's interest to ignore it. As for the attempt to convince the Egyptian people that their sacrifices have been made solely to defend the Palestinian cause, this disregards the Israeli threat to Egypt itself and means that, when anger is randomly directed at a particular Palestinian attitude, some people could be forced into a strategic error that certainly should not occur.

The strange thing is that the Palestinians have never played down Egypt's leadership status.

Some people also argue that the development of Egyptian society is linked to a state of peace with Israel — something that events have disproved since we landed in the arms of those basically supporting Israel. It is now proved that progress is being hampered and that society has failed to achieve its objectives. This is because the state of the Zionist entity fully realizes these facts and so does not allow its partners to go far in developing and helping Egypt.

This may prompt us to say that it is in Egypt's interest to support the Palestinians and not to cut contacts with them. Since this is the case it was illogical for the Egyptian leadership to issue a warning to an independent, or partly independent, parliament. If we compare this with the Egyptian position toward what is happening inside the Zionist entity, we find that the Egyptian Government tends to deal with the Israeli Labor Party more than the Likud, even though it did not warn the Israeli Parliament against adopting a particular position on the idea of an international conference or on other matters.

What we would like to say is that the Palestinian parliament in exile (the PNC), like any executive organization of any people, includes numerous trends. It was unreasonable for Egypt to expect the 400 members to agree on a particular formula for relations with Egypt or with others. Therefore, the word "warning" meant an escalation of the situation and the creation of a crisis.

One may ask: What are the motives behind creating such a crisis? The precise answer in short is that Egypt realized how merely convening the PNC meant that, having gone some way with Egypt in its political movement, a section of the Palestinian leadership turned to the PNC, which is known not to be monopolized by one party or the other, for consultation.

Does this mean that the Palestinian leadership is more aware of regional and international facts than the Egyptian leadership? Such a question is now being raised. And does this also mean that the Jordanian leadership is more understanding and that it has ceased to escalate the situation further with the PLO, contrary to what the Egyptian leadership has done?

In short, this is a crisis of the Egyptian leadership's awareness and role in the Arab region, a crisis of awareness of the dimen-

sions of the Palestinian cause and the Israeli threat. It has created a crisis in daily dealings with the political movement in the Arab region and with the Palestinian cause.

We would be right to say to the ruling political leadership that they should go easy on the PLO, that there would be no embarrassment in doing so because the PLO has worked toward easing the situation and clarifying facts, since various Arab mediations have also played and are probably still continuing to play their roles.

Ghali Leaves for Chad With Mubarak Message

NC071133 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1030 GMT 7 Jul 87

[Text] Cairo, 7 Jul (MENA) — Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali left Cairo for Ndjamena this morning on a 5-day visit.

In a predeparture statement, Dr Ghali said that he is carrying a message of support and solidarity from President Husni Mubarak to Chadian President Hissein Habre. He noted that during the visit he will lead the Egyptian delegation to the Egyptian-Chadian joint committee's second session, which will discuss promoting economic, trade, and financial relations and enhancing bilateral cooperation in the fields of transportation and communications. The conferees will also draw up a program for technical, cultural, and scientific cooperation and discuss coordination between Egyptian and Chadian diplomats in preparation for the upcoming 23d summit conference in Addis Ababa on 27 July.

The joint Egyptian-Chadian committee will also discuss bilateral cooperation in training and rehabilitating Chadian cadres in various areas and the feasibility of Egypt's contributing to Chad's reconstruction. In conclusion, Dr Ghali said that his visit reflects the firm and distinguished relations that exist between the two fraternal African states and affirms Egypt's support for Chad in confronting any aggression against its territory.

Oil Minister Departs for Singapore, Malaysia

NC090825 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0710 GMT 9 Jul 87

[Text] Cairo, 9 Jul (MENA) — 'Abd al-Hadi Qandil, minister of petroleum and mineral resources, left Cairo today on a tour to Singapore and Malaysia.

Before his departure, Minister Qandil said that during his 1-week tour he will hold talks with the two countries' senior oil officials on ways to promote bilateral cooperation.

The minister also stated that he will visit natural gas production and filling plants there to view the modern methods being used in the production and transportation of gas and to determine whether the same methods could be applied in Al-Sahra' al-Gharbiyah in Egypt.

Planning Minister Begins 4-Day Visit to Athens

NC071029 Cairo MENA in English 0855 GMT 7 Jul 87

[Text] Cairo, July 7 (MENA) — Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, deputy premier and minister of planning, left here today for Athens on a four-day visit during which he will attend the first session of the joint Egyptian-Greek Committee for Economic Cooperation. He will also discuss means of promoting cooperation in the various domains, particularly in the fields of tourism and maritime transport, besides trade exchange.

The committee opened its meetings yesterday.

Yasir 'Arafat's Adviser Leaves Cairo for Amman

NC070740 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0625 GMT 7 Jul 87

[Text] Cairo, 7 Jul (MENA) — Hani al-Hasan, political adviser to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, left Cairo for Amman this morning at the conclusion of a week-long visit.

Prior to his departure, Al-Hasan said that his visit had been very successful. Since it was lengthy, he was able to meet with a large number of Egyptian officials, including Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister

Supreme Soviet Presidium Member Visits Tripoli

LD081241 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1003 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] Tripoli, 8 Jul (JANA) — Aleksandr Mokanu, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Presidium in the Republic of Moldavia, visited the residence of the brother leader of the revolution this morning and saw for himself the results of the failed barbaric U.S.-NATO aggression.

The deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium stopped [as received] at Tripoli International Airport this morning where he was welcomed by the brother assistant secretary of the General People's Congress.

The deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium made a statement to a JANA correspondent in which he greatly praised the efforts being made by the people of the Great Jamahiriyah to build a society of freedom and prosperity. He said: "We have full respect for the Libyan Arab people and highly appreciate the friendship linking us. We wish the Libyan people every success, happiness, and prosperity."

Palestinian Popular Struggle Front Leader Arrives

LD080041 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2215 GMT 7 Jul 87

[Text] Brother Samir Ghawshah, secretary general of the Palestinian Popular Struggle Front, arrived in Tripoli this evening on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Brother Ghawshah made a statement in which he confirmed that the Palestinian Arab people and all their Palestinian forces look with respect and appreciation at the role played by the Jamahiriyah under the leadership of Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, in view of the effective role which he plays at the pan-Arab level for the achievement of the objectives of our Arab nation, for the liberation of Palestine and the establishment of comprehensive Arab unity, and, in particular, for the establishment of a union between the Jamahiriyah and Algeria.

He ended his statement by extending warm congratulations to brother leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great Al-Fatih Revolution, and to the Libyan Arab people on the historic, unifying meeting between the brothers in Algeria and the Great Jamahiriyah in the interest of the unity of the Arab nation and its central cause, Palestine.

Head of State Receives Algeria's Abdelghani
LD090849 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] Colonel Maaouya Ould Sid' Ahmed Taya, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state, received Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani, member of the [FLN] Political Bureau and minister of state at the Algerian Presidential Office.

Following the meeting, which was attended by Dr N'diaye Kane, minister of public health and social affairs, and the Algerian ambassador in Nouakchott, the Algerian official said that he haddelivered a message from his brother, Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid, concerning the current situation in the Arab Maghreb. He added that the head of state had asked him to convey a reply message to President Chadli Bendjedid.

Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani then expressed satisfaction with Mauritania's participation in marking the 25th anniversary of Algerian independence by sending a high-level delegation.

The Algerian minister left Nouakchott at noon today. He was seen off by Major Dr N'diaye Kane, member of the Military Committee for National Salvation and minister of public health and social affaris.

Taya Receives Iraqi Minister, Commendation
AB022124 Paris AFP in French 2022 GMT 2 Jul 87

[Text] Nouakchott, 2 Jul (AFP) — Colonel Maaouya Ould Sid' Ahmed Taya, the Mauritanian head of state, today received Mr 'Abd al-Fattah Muhammad Amin, the Iraqi minister of youth, who delivered a message to him from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn. After the audience, Mr Amin said that the message mainly concerned Iraq's appreciation for the "courageous decision made by Mauritania to break relations with Iran." To the Iraqi people, he said, this decision constitutes "the expression of Arab solidarity with Iraq in the latter's war with Iran."

Mauritania last Sunday [28 June] broke off diplomatic relations with Iran as a protest against Tehran's attitude in the war with Iraq and its "obstinate refusal" to reach a negotiated settlement. Iran and Mauritania had enjoyed diplomatic relations for 20 years.

The Iraqi minister left Nouakchott this afternoon at the end of a 24-hour visit to Mauritania.

SPLA 'Investigating' Kidnapping Reports

NC081700 Paris AFP in English 1654 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Excerpt] Khartoum, July 8 (AFP) — Four aid workers — three Americans and a Briton — were kidnapped in southern Sudan on Monday by the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), the Interior Ministry announced here Wednesday.

A ministry spokesman identified the three Americans as Mark Nikkel, a priest, Stephen Anderson and a woman named as Miss Katty. The Briton was identified as a Mr. Sinclair.

All four worked with the American Relief Society, the spokesman said, adding that they were kidnapped in the area of Mondrei, near the southern provincial capital of Juba.

(SPLA sources contacted from Nairobi told *Agence France-Presse* they were investigating reports that its units had captured the four. The movement had asked its commanders in the field to report immediately on the matter.

(There were several armed groups in the area, including Sudanese Government soldiers and government militia, making it difficult to say right away who was responsible, the sources pointed out.) [passage omitted]

Security Organizations' Licenses May Be Canceled

JN081824 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] Sudanese Interior Minister Sayyid Ahmad al-Husayn said today that the Sudanese Government is now considering canceling licenses given to private security organizations in Sudan.

It may be recalled that the provisional government, which was formed in Sudan after the fall of the Ja'far Numayri regime, had granted licenses to an American organization and a Sudanese organization to operate in Sudan and that the U.S. and British Embassies had signed contracts with them.

SPLA Military Claims Attacks 18-29 Jun

EA081746 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Excerpts] A joint SPLA force comprising Kashshah task force No 2 and units of (Maban) Battalion have carried out a series of devastating attacks against enemy positions inside the town of (Maban) in southern Blue Nile. Operating under the overall command of Colonel (Makuei Deng Majuch), the force launched its first attack on (Maban) on 18th June 1987. In this attack, which lasted for several hours and caused heavy casualties on the enemy side, SPLA forces engaged enemy forces at the Army barracks, the police, the prisons, the marketplace, the school, and the bridge. At the end of this battle the enemy had lost both its food and ammunition stores after these were gutted by fire. [passage omitted]

On 25th June 1987, (Maban) task force under the command of First Lieutenant (?Riak Chan) combined with Kashshah task force No 2 and Hariqah task force under the respective commands of First Lieutenant (Gordon Makwach) and First Lieutenant (?Dominic Garang) and reestablished contact with enemy forces (in Maban). Our correspondent says this second attack was particularly fierce, at least 30 enemy soldiers were killed and 50 others seriously injured. SPLA forces disengaged the enemy force at (Maban) after 3 days of continual fighting, during which the greater part of the town of (Maban) was left in ashes. [passage omitted]

The last raid against enemy positions inside (Maban) town was carried out on 29th June 1987 by a detachment of two platoons from the combined force under the overall command of Col (Makuei Deng Majuch). Details of this operation are still sketchy, but our correspondent said that enemy casualties were high and damage to materials quite extensive. [passage omitted]

Islamic Front Leader Views Regional Issues

PM090827 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 4 Jul 87 p 3

[Interview with Hasan al-Turabi, secretary general of the Sudanese Islamic Front, by Hanan al-Badri in Cairo; date not given]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Al-Badri] What specifically is the objective of your visit to Cairo at this particular time?

[Al-Turabi] The picture of public life in Sudan cannot be completed unless linked to that of Egypt. We are seeking to understand the brotherhood forces and public opinion in Egypt in order to establish good relations through our Islamic and African affiliation.

[Al-Badri] Would you kindly shed some light on the Islamic Front's concept and program regarding Sudan's foreign policy?

[Al-Turabi] The issue of Sudan's foreign policy has become a very urgent matter. Because it is economically weak and its security has been disturbed in recent years, Sudan has been subject to a great deal of foreign interference, sometimes from outside the continent. I do not deny that we have parties with international roots now actively operating. Security in Sudan is being threatened by the situation in the south, which is a rebellion of international dimensions. A solution to this crisis is linked to international relations and has a special priority.

There are some issues which are excluded from the circle of partisan differences and fall into the national category; namely, foreign policy issues, the problem of the south, and the issue of the Islamic Shari'ah.

[Al-Badri] How did you manage to maintain a moderate formula when applying Islam to your internal policy?

[Al-Turabi] The Islamic trend in Sudan is not confined to a particular group since the political position is affected by its political size: The greater the size of a movement, the more mature it is and thus the better equipped to shoulder the responsibility of dealing with public opinion. The Islamic movement in Sudan is expansive and comprehensive and bears a big responsibility; it adopts an objective and realistic program. We did not

just raise the slogan of the [Islamic] call but indeed dealt with Sudanese reality to express Islam in the form of social, economic, and cultural institutions as well as program policies. The problem of the south is not presented by the southerners or the northerners; it was the Islamic Front alone which laid down a concept of and a detailed solution to constitutional and economic relations, the application of the Islamic Shari'ah, and the multiplicity of religions.

[Al-Badri] The application of the Islamic Shari'ah in Sudan did not achieve complete success during the era of the former regime. What, in your opinion, is the reason for that?

[Al-Turabi] During that period the Islamic Shari'ah was applied in response to a general popular feeling which Numayri sensed and, therefore, tried to express. However, he expressed it in his own way; of course, he was not democratic. Necessary preparations and enlightenment were not provided to help apply the Shari'ah gradually and in a manner which would have suited popular convictions and Sudanese reality. [passage omitted]

[Al-Badri] Despite the coincidence in viewpoints, the Islamic Movement is different from the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt. So what, in your opinion, are the points of agreement and disagreement?

[Al-Turabi] We are part of the world Islamic movement, but the movement in Sudan has its own roots; its entity works according to what Islamic reality dictates. As for the Islamic movement in Egypt, this was hampered for known, urgent political reasons but eventually returned to pursue its activities under the open democracy which exists now in Egypt.

We consider Egypt to be an extension of Sudan; if Egypt happened to be a country that had deeply-rooted systems and an Islamic identity, then the application of Islamic Shari'ah in it would in fact complement its Islamic identity. As for Sudan, the situation is different: Our Islamic identity is threatened as a result of our geographical neighborliness and social fabric. The application of the Islamic Shari'ah in our country is an attempt to confirm our identity at a time when some people are disputing its roots.

The Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt was at a stage of promoting Islam when it was absent from the arena. As for Sudan, God has granted us a long history through which we have managed to move into a stage of application within our political reality.

[Al-Badri] Mr al-Sadiq al-Mahdi has declared the abrogation of integration between Egypt and Sudan and the joint defense pact. He previously had announced that the brotherhood agreement cancels previous agreements. What is the Islamic Front's view?

[Al-Turabi] This is the disease of the political changes in Sudan: Whenever a new regime emerges it considers itself to be the beginning of history and tries to erase whatever took place in the past. However, there is more continuity and depth in life than what we call integration or brotherhood, because the essence of Egyptian-Sudanese relations is firm. We did not want that essence to be shaken by changing the picture. Whenever a new government comes into power it tends to attribute this integration to its own efforts. The Brotherhood Charter was not an endorsement for this brotherhood, since this matter was in fact settled by history centuries ago. What we are calling for now is the need to establish actual economic cooperation between Egypt and Sudan. As for the joint defense pact, one look at the geographical position between us would confirm the unity of defense; therefore, joint defense must be embodied. If the political leadership in Sudan attributes the agreement to the former regime — fine, even though we always prefer to build and preserve history rather than disregard it.

Sudan is today threatened by a rebellion backed by and linked to foreign powers: Ethiopia supports it with arms, training, and broadcasting.

[Al-Badri] But Ethiopia has declared that its aid to John Garang is provided to counter the aid that Sudan provides to Eritrea.

[Al-Turabi] The Eritrean problem emerged when Ethiopia violated the federal independence imposed by the United Nations to unite Eritrea and Ethiopia. Then the Eritrean crisis erupted as the result of internal sedition in Ethiopia, which refused to expand the framework of its political system despite several recommendations against central control.

[Al-Badri] There are expectations that this issue will be raised at the African summit in Addis Ababa on 27 July.

[Al-Turabi] Perhaps this matter will be raised at the summit; sisterly Egypt may try to make some diplomatic efforts to solve this problem. In any event, it seems that the Eritrean problem will be settled in the near future.

[Al-Badri] The problem of the entry of Libyan forces into western Sudanese territories was dealt with quickly, but there are still traces of such interference.

[Al-Turabi] When Libyan forces entered western Sudan the government covered up their presence. However, we, the Islamic Front, announced the fact at a press conference, and it made a terrifying impact on citizens. The government was forced to request Libya to withdraw its forces. But there are still some traces of military presence.

[Al-Badri] You have made contacts during this visit with all political trends in Egypt at both political and official levels. What is the impression you have been left with?

[Al-Turabi] We are pursuing popular diplomacy so as to complete what we see as weakness in the continuity of Sudanese foreign moves. These efforts are in Sudan's interest. We have come to Egypt at the invitation of the NDP, and we believe that popular relations should be strengthened, since these will provide a firmer foundation on which to build our future. [passage omitted]

KUWAIT

KUNA Cites Envoy in U.S. on Tanker Flagging

LD081114 Kuwait KUNA in English 0954 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] London, July 8 (KUNA) — Kuwait's ambassador to Washington Shaykh Sa'ud Nasir al-Sabah said that Kuwait's stance calls for protecting its oil tankers in the international waters.

In an interview with *Al-Majallah* magazine, published here Wednesday, he said the debates in the U.S. on the reflagging of Kuwaiti tankers are natural in any democratic system.

He said there are supporters and opponents to the Kuwaiti step in the Congress, noting that those who oppose the reflagging started to understand the administration's policy in a bid to reach a compromise in favour of the reflagging.

On extending military facilities for the American forces in the region Shaykh Sa'ud said there will be no military facilities extended to these forces noting that as an assistance the Gulf ports provide fuel for the U.S. and British warships which visit these ports.

Commenting on the Chinese-made Silkworm missiles purchased by Iran and deployed on the Strait of Hormuz, he said Kuwait is not concerned with these missiles noting that the presence of the Silkworm in the region is not new because the region has been in a state of war for seven years.

On the mines which are reported to be placed by Iran off Al-Ahmadi port the ambassador said Kuwait is studying the issue, indicating to the presence of mine experts in Kuwait to assess the situation.

Asked on fears that the U.S. military role in the region might expand the Iraq-Iran war Shaykh Sa'ud said "the issue must be taken as a whole and the threats should be studied with all its dimensions."

He added attacks against the U.S. warships are possible noting that Kuwait believes that the reflagging will limit these threats.

In reply to a question, he said the Soviet Union has been in the region for years and our request for a Soviet protection to our chartered tankers was based on the principle that providing security for international navigation as an international responsibility.

The Kuwaiti ambassador denied that the U.S. Administration has practiced any pressure to limit the Soviet role. "We know that the American policy does not approve the Soviet presence in the Gulf," he said, adding "we will not allow any country to interfere in our internal affairs."

On statements by some representatives of the American labour unions not to encourage the reflagging of Kuwaiti tankers on the pretext that the step will increase unemployment and rather encourage chartering American tankers instead Shaykh Sa'ud said, "we discussed the issue with the concerned countries". He added "we want more tankers and if the U.S. is ready we will not refuse chartering American tankers."

Commenting on reports saying that the U.S. is establishing direct or indirect contacts with Iran he said "we encourage and support any contact of this kind but not for supplying arms to Iran but rather for ending the 'Gulf' war peacefully."

Statement on Sudanese Prime Minister's Visit

LD081253 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] On the occasion of Sudanese Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi's visit to Kuwait, Rashid 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rashid, minister of state for cabinet affairs, made the following statement:

At the invitation of his brother, His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al'-Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah, the heir apparent and chairman of the Council of Ministers, Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi from the fraternal Republic of Sudan, paid a visit to Kuwait at the head of an official delegation between 6-8 July 1987. His excellency and the members of the delegation accompanying him were given a warm welcome which expressed the depth of the fraternal feelings and the strong ties that link both countries and their respective fraternal peoples.

The esteemed guest began his meetings in Kuwait with his highness the amir, conveying to him the greetings and appreciation of fraternal Sudan. In an atmosphere of total understanding and mutual amity, talks were held between the two sides under the cochairmanship of his excellency the visiting prime minister and his highness the heir apparent and chairman of the Council of Ministers. A number of senior officials from both countries participated in these discussions. The talks dealt with various issues of mutual interest, as well as the development of current Arab and international situations.

The two sides reaffirmed their determination to bolster the bases of constructive cooperation between the two countries in all fields in order to realize the aspirations of both their peoples on the basis of common objectives and interests.

The two sides reviewed current Arab issues and reaffirmed the necessity and importance of bolstering the well-meaning efforts being made to realize effective Arab solidarity to confront the serious challenges facing the Arab nation. They expressed the hope that these efforts will be crowned with success so that the required circumstances for convening the awaited Arab summit conference become possible and a clear strategy for positive movement in all spheres will be realized for joint Arab action.

With regard to the Iraq-Iran war, the two sides reaffirmed the attitude of their countries which calls for action by all possible means to halt this war that is draining the blood and energies of the two Muslim neighboring countries. In addition to their principled rejection of the continuation of this tragic war from which no one benefits except the enemies of the Arab and Islamic nations, the two sides reaffirmed their rejection and total denun-

ciation of any attempt to expand the area of this war. Thiswould only increase the danger and complexity of the conflict as far as the region and the whole world are concerned. In this connection, the Sudanese side reiterated his country's attitude which understands and supports the commercial measures taken by the state of Kuwait to ensure its oil consignment destined for abroad. The Sudanese side also expressed its rejection of any threats to Kuwait or any of the Arabian Gulf states. The Kuwaiti side expressed its appreciation for this fraternal attitude by fraternal Sudan. The Kuwaiti and Sudanese sides reaffirmed their support for the efforts currently being made by the Security Council to halt the Iraq-Iran war, as well as the endeavours of the UN secretary general in this connection, and appealed to all peace-loving states to make every effort to back them.

While reviewing developments in the Palestinian cause, the two sides affirmed that a durable, comprehensive, and just peace in the region can only be achieved by the withdrawal of the Israeli occupation forces from all occupied Arab territories — at the forefront of which is Jerusalem — and by guaranteeing full national rights for Palestinian people. The two sides also affirmed the support of their two countries for the PLO, which is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

With regard to the situation in Lebanon, the two sides affirmed their eagerness to safeguard the unity of the fraternal country and its territorial integrity, as well as its sovereignty and independence. They also called on the warring parties to work to put an end to the fighting taking place between them in order to face the common dangers, at the forefront of which are the Israeli occupation and its ambitions in the region.

Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi addressed an invitation to his brother his highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah, the heir apparent and prime minsiter, to visit Sudan. His highness accepted it with thanks. The date of the visit will be fixed later.

Defense Minister Returns From Algerian Celebrations

LD082017 Kuwait KUNA in English 1933 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] Kuwait, July 8 (KUNA) — Kuwaiti Defense Minister Shaykh Salim al-Sabah returned here from Algiers tonight and told reporters Algerian leaders had shown full understanding of the moves Kuwait had taken to safeguard its navigation in the Gulf.

Algerian leaders said they fully understood Kuwait's position on the reflagging of Kuwaiti tankers in accordance with the national economic interest of the country, according to Shaykh Salim who met in Algiers with parliament speaker, foreign minister and other senior officials.

The defense minister, who was accompanied by a military delegation, represented Kuwait to Algeria's 25th independence anniversary celebrations.

He said his talks with Algerian officials, including secretary general of the Algerian Defense Ministry, dealt with the U.N. resolutions on the Gulf war and Arab and international questions.

Military talks between the two sides were a follow-up on previous cooperation between the two countries, he said, recalling that a large Kuwaiti military delegation had visited here for training on Soviet weapons used in both countries.

He indicated that the two states would in the near future exchange delegations for the same purpose.

QATAR

Sudanese Prime Minister Arrives in Doha

JN080955 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0840 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] Doha, 8 Jul (WAKH) — Sudanese Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi arrived in Doha today from Kuwait on a visit to Qatar as part of his current tour of a number of the region's states. He was received by the Qatari heir apparent, His Highness Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani.

The delegation accompanying Al-Mahdi includes Foreign Minister Muhammad Tawfiq Ahmad, Finance and Economic Planning Minister Dr Bashir 'Umar, Culture and Information Minister Ma'mun Sanadah, and party and region representatives.

Meets With Shaykh Hamad

JN081615 Manama WAKH in English 1553 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] Doha, July 8 (GNA) — Official talks began here today between Qatari Deputy Amir and Crown Prince Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah al-Thani and Sudanese Prime minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi.

The talks tackled means of enhancing Qatari-Sudanese relations in various fields and views on Gulf and Arab development were exchanged.

Delegation from both sides attended the meeting.

The Sudanese premier arrived here earlier today on a two-day visit to Qatar as part of a regional tour.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Zayid Cables Husayn, Al-Asad, Saddam on Meeting

JN081712 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1400 GMT 7 Jul 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 7 Jul (WAM) — His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, the president, has sent the following cable to His Majesty King Husayn, the monarch of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan:

Your honest efforts and continuous persistence, which were crowned by the meeting between the two brothers, Hafiz al-Asad, president of the fraternal SAR, and Saddam Husayn, president of the fraternal Republic of Iraq, have delighted us and reinforced hope of achieving unity and giving priority to higher Arab and Islamic interests — something that we have been

patiently and eagerly awaiting and something that is considered the hope of those who are concerned witht the interests of the Arab and Islamic nations.

We appreciate your majesty's great efforts to remove the differences between the two brother presidents. These efforts are in fact part of your rich history and continuous struggle to champion the issues of our Arab and Islamic nation. History will record these lofty stands throughout the years.

We back all your steps to close ranks and to defend the Arab and Islamic nation. God is our supporter and leader to achieve the well-being, interests, and pride of our Arab and Islamic nation.

President Zayid also sent a cable to his brother His Excellency Saddam Husayn, president of the fraternal Republic of Iraq. The following is the text of the cable:

We have received with deep satisfaction the news of your meeting, dear brother, with Brother Hafiz al-Asad, president of the fraternal SAR. This blessed step increases our hopes for Arab unity. We were eagerly awaiting such a meeting, which shows mutual tolerance and indicates that you are rising above all that obstructs solidarity among the brother leaders of our Arab and Islamic world.

Tolerance among the brother leaders of Arab and Islamic countries, concern for Arab and Islamic interests and objectives, and the march toward achieving our nation's pride and strength are necessary to deprive our enemies of the opportunity to encroach on our sovereignty and objectives. We should avoid all that can help the enemies tocarry out their schemes.

We know full well that we, as an Arab and Islamic nation, are a target. We must close ranks to achieve our Arab and Islamic nation's hopes and aspirations of loftiness and pride. God is our supporter and leader to achieve our nation's well-being and pride.

President Zayid also sent a cable to his brother His Excellency Hafiz al-Asad, president of the fraternal SAR. The following is the text of the cable:

We have received with deep satisfaction the news of your meeting, dear brother, with Brother Saddam Husayn, president of the fraternal Republic of Iraq. This blessed step increases our hopes of Arab unity. We were eagerly awaiting such a meeting, which shows mutual tolerance and indicates that you are rising above all that obstructs solidarity among the brother leaders of our Arab and Islamic world.

Tolerance among the brother leaders of Arab and Islamic countries, concern for Arab and Islamic interests and objectives, and the march toward achieving our nation's pride and strength are necessary to deprive our enemies of the opportunity to encroach on our sovereignty and objectives. We should avoid all that can help the enemies to carry out their schemes.

We know full well that we, as an Arab and Islamic nation, are a target. We must close ranks to achieve our Arab and Islamic nation's hopes and aspirations of loftiness and pride. God is our supporter and leader to achieve our nation's well-being and pride.

YAR

Ethiopian Foreign Minister Continues Visit

JN061952 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 6 Jul 87

[Text] Brother Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and member of the Standing Committee, received Berhanu Bayeh, member of the Political Bureau of the Workers' Party of Ethiopia and minister of foreign affairs, and his accompanying delegation today. During the meeting, they discussed bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest. The meeting was attended by our ambassador in Ethiopia Husayn al-'Askari; Brother Ghalib al-Surufi, director of the Foreign Ministry's International Department; and the Ethiopian charge d'affaires in Sanaa.

The Ethiopian foreign minister arrived in Sanaa this morning on a visit to our country scheduled to last several days. He will also convey a message to President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, secretary general of the General People's Congress, from Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam.

In a statement to *Saba'*, the Ethiopian foreign minister said that with the deputy prime minister and foreign minister he will discuss bilateral relations, which are considered historic and which govern the two countries' good-neighborliness. He pointed out that the YAR president's visit to Ethiopia last year and his talks with President Mengistu Haile Mariam strengthened cooperation in all areas. He was received upon arrival by 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and member of the Standing Committee, and by the Ethiopian charge d'affaires in Sanaa.

Official Talks Begin

JN071531 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 7 Jul 87

[Text] At 1030, an official round of talks was held at the Prime Ministry between the YAR and Socialist Ethiopia led by Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and Standing Committee member, and Ethiopian Foreign Minister Dr Berhanu Bayeh. Members of the two countries' delegations were also present.

They discussed the longstanding YAR-Ethiopian relations based on bonds of neighborliness, friendship, and cooperation, relations which have been further strengthened since the revolutions in both countries. They also examined ways to develop ties in the mutual interests of the two countries' peoples and to open u new horizons for bilateral relations. Regional and international issues also came up for discussion.

Meets With Salih

JN080739 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
2000 GMT 7 Jul 87

[Text] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, received in his office this evening Berhanu Bayeh, member of the Political Bureau of the Workers' Party of Ethiopia [WPE] and minister of foreign affairs, who conveyed to the president a message from Mengistu Haile Mariam, secretary general of the WPE and chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council in Socialist Ethiopia. The message contained an invitation to the president to visit Socialist Ethiopia to participate in the 12th anniversary of the Ethiopian revolution.

The meeting was attended by Brothers 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and member of the Standing Committee; Husayn al-'Askari, our country's ambassador to socialist Ethiopia; and Tequame Atske, the Ethiopian charge d'affaires in Sanaa.

USSR Ambassador Delivers Gorbachev Message

JN071439 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
0430 GMT 7 Jul 87

[Text] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, received the credentials of Veniamin Viktorovich Popov as extraordinary ambassador and plenipotentiary of the USSR to our country at a ceremony which took place yesterday at the presidential palace.

After the usual protocol, the ambassador presented his credentials. Cordial words were exchanged during the brother commander in chief's reception of the ambassador. The ambassador expressed his pleasure on this occasion and referred to the strong historical ties between the two friendly countries and peoples, ties based on mutual respect and noninterference in internal affairs. These ties were enhanced after the signing of the cooperation and friendship treaty in October 1984 during the brother president's visit to the USSR. The ambassador said that this document has promoted cooperation between the two countries to a new level and has given them a stronger foundation based on mutual respect and noninterference in internal affairs. The ambassador referred to the close views of the two fraternal countries with regard to a number of international and regional issues.

After that the YAR president spoke. He welcomed the ambassador and hailed the traditional relations between the two countries, relations which were established by signing the friendship and trade agreement in 1928 [as heard] and boosted by the friendship and cooperation treaty between the two countries in 1984. The YAR president said that these relations have witnessed positive developments in various fields, particularly after the 26 September revolution. He added that the USSR was at the forefront of the friendly countries which supported and helped the new September revolution right from the beginning, something which enabled the YAR to set up the pillars of revolution and the republican system. He pointed out that the YAR has adopted a clear and firm policy in its international relations thanks to the clear objectives of the glorious revolution. These objectives, which are embodied in the national charter, are based on the noble principles of the nonaligned movement: respect for sovereignty and independence, noninterference in internal affairs, solving disputes peacefully, establishing new international relations based on justice, and establishing a new world economic order.

The YAR president hailed the USSR's stands toward supporting the struggles of people who are under the yoke of colonialism, especially the Palestinian Arab people's struggle to regain their inalienble legitimate rights and establish an independent state under the leadership of their sole legitimate representative, the PLO. The Soviet Union also plays a major role in finding a just and lasting solution to the Middle East question through holding an international conference for peace attended by all parties concerned, including the PLO, and the effective participation of the five permanent member states of the UN Security Council.

In conclusion, the YAR president asked the ambassador to convey his greetings to General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev and the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. During the meeting, the ambassador conveyed to the brother president a message from Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU.

Saddam Husayn Receives Iran Operation Leader

JN081350 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] President Saddam Husayn has received Masud Rajavi, head of the Iranian Nation Resistance Council. During the meeting they exchanged views on the current situation in the region, particularly on Khomeyni's aggressive policy. The president and Rajavi condemned this policy and stressed the need for peace for both the Iraqi and Iranian peoples.

Leader President Saddam Husayn congratulated Masud Rajavi on establishing the Iranian National Liberation Army, which is also an army for peace as well. Masud Rajavi congratulated the leader president on the 17-30 July glorious revolution festivals.

The meeting was attended by the president's secretary and the deputy official in charge of the Liberation Movements Bureau in the RCC.

Baghdad Reacts to Iran's UN Message on POW Exchange

JN080816 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1745 GMT 7 Jul 87

[Text] United Nations, 7 Jul (INA) — Iraq has refuted Iranian claims contained in a message distributed at the Security Council last week on exchanging POW's. Iraq said that the Iranian message contains many falsehoods and distorts facts. In a message handed to the UN secretary general by 'Ismat Kittani, Iraq's permanent representative at the United Nations, Iraq stated that the Iranian message does not include any constructive suggestions with regard to the exchange of POW's between Iraq and Iran.

The Iraqi message says that the Iranian representative who attended the 25th conference of the International Committee of the Red Cross [ICRC] in Geneva had noted that his regime agrees on the resumption of ICRC activities with regard to the conditions of Iraqi POW's in Iran. He also raised some ideas which he called initiatives on POW exchanges. The Iraqi message says these ideas are based on exchanging equal numbers of POW's and on excluding some POW's from the exchange.

The Iraqi message notes that the return of the ICRC to Iran came as a result of an international pressure and denunciation campaign through which various international humanitarian bodies expressed their condemnation of the inhuman practices of the brutal Iranian regime against Iraqi POW's.

Concluding its message, Iraq affirmed that it did not reject any practical suggestion to exchange POW's in accordance with the 1949 Third Geneva Convention and international laws.

UN Security Council Informed of Iranian Shelling

JN081826 Baghdad INA in English 1656 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] United Nations, July 8, INA — Iraq informed the U.N. Security Council today that the aggressor Iranian regime again shelled residential neighborhoods in the indomitable city of Al-Basrah.

In a letter addressed to U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, Iraqi ambassador to the U.N, 'Ismat Kittani reported that a June 29 long-range artillery attack on that city resulted in damage to dwelling-houses and civilian property.

Reports From Gulf War Battlefronts Continue

Khark Platform Attacked

JN0[illegible]37 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1926 GMT 7 Jul 87

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Jul (INA) -- Iraqi warplanes launched a daring raid on the western platform of Iran's Khark Island at 2130 [1730 GMT] today and then returned safely to base. In a statement to INA tonight, an Iraqi military spokesman said the Iraqi planes which carried out the raid penetrated the enemy air defenses and dealt a brave blow, which they are known for, accurately hitting the target. He said Iraq once again affirms through the daring deeds its right to strike at all sources which help the Iranian rulers continue the war.

Ship Hit in Khark Raid

JN081549 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1500 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] The British Lloyds Company for Maritime Insurance said today that a Singapore ship named (*Sal Virvi*) was hit by an Iraqi missile while near Iran's Khark Island last night. Lloyds said the ship was built in 1967 and owned by the (Simco Salvage Limited) Shipping Company headquartered in Singapore.

A Lloyds Maritime Damage Department official told an INA correspondent in London that the Singapore salvage ship was hit when Iraqi fighter planes raided the Iranian island last night.

Lloyds learned from the company which owns the ship in Singapore that the ship was severely damaged.

Communique No 2,735

JN081729 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Communique No 2,735 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 8 July 1987]]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Iraq's forces, fighting for the sake of God and the homeland, continue their glorious defense of Iraq's land and honor, daily affirming their God-supported victory over our people's enemies, the aggressive despotic Iranian rulers, the slaves of Zionism. The following is a roundup of our valiant forces' activities for last night and today:

1. Our striking Air Force continues to achieve splendid victories over our people's renegade enemies. They carried out 72 combat missions today in which they annihilated great numbers of rogues, demolished many Khomeyniite positions over the heads of their remnants, and destroyed large quantities of their equipment and weapons. After carrying out all these missions,

our aircraft, piloted by our rapacious hawks, returned safely and victoriously to base in God's care.

2. The valiant knights of the helicopter gunships continue their heroic strafing of enemy personnel concentrations, positions, and weapons, dealing them devastating blows and adding new numbers to the Khomeyniites' already heavy losses. After carrying out 31 combat missions, the knights returned safely in their helicopters guarded by Almighty God's care.

3. A frustrated enemy force attempted to approach one of our forward positions in the I Army Corps northern sector, while another enemy force tried to approach another position in the same sector. Our brave men in the heroic I Army Corps confronted them with various types of weapons. Most of the two enemy forces were killed, while the remainder fled, chased by the strong Iraqi fire of truth. Elsewhere in the same sector, the following confirmed losses were inflicted on the Zionist Khomeyniites:

A. One tank was set ablaze and destroyed.

B. One tubular launcher was destroyed.

C. Seven vehicles of various kinds were set ablaze and destroyed.

D. Two machineguns were destroyed and their crew killed and a number of infantry positions were destroyed.

E. Nine ammunition dumps were destroyed.

4. A patrol from our units in the IV Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah spotted a group of enemy personnel and clashed with it. Four enemy rogues were killed, others were injured, and the remainder was forced to flee.

While one of our patrols was performing its duty in no- man's-land in the same sector, it found the following weapons and equipment abandoned by the enemy in previous battles: five machineguns of various types, one 106-mm gun, two RPG-7 launchers, one GC medium-caliber machinegun, and one radio set.

5. Our victorious forces in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah continued their brave activities, inflicting on the enemy human and material losses, in addition to the following:

A. One 106-mm gun destroyed.

B. Two enemy rogues killed.

C. One bulldozer destroyed.

D. A number of ammunition dumps blown up.

E. Enemy engineering work halted.

6. On the VII Army Corps front one enemy machinegun was destroyed, one ammunition dump was blown up, and enemy positions were set ablaze.

7. The rascal Khomeyniites shelled the residential districts of steadfast Al-Basrah with long-range artillery. The enemy shelling damaged a number of houses and citizens' property.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 8 July 1987

Tanker Holding Area Attacked

JN090633 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0602 GMT 9 Jul 87

[Text] Baghdad, 9 Jul (INA) — At 2357 [1957 GMT] yesterday, Iraqi aircraft raided an oil tanker holding area east of Khark Island and managed to score destructive hits against it after penetrating the enemy air defenses.

In a statement to INA a short while ago, an Iraqi military spokesman said that all the Iraqi aircraft which had participated in scoring these hits had returned safely to base. He explained that these new air strikes, which were carried out with planned leadership instructions and with the Iraqi hawks' celebrated courage and superior performance, were carried out in order to bring closer the chances for a just peace by depriving the Iranian regime of its remaining resources.

The spokesman asserted that the Iraqi aircraft dominate the skies of the Arab Gulf and shower enemy installations and supply routes with bombs day and night in embodiment of Iraqi's firm, legitimate right to destroy vital Iranian economic installations and bases linked to the war effort, headed by oil installations and Iranian oil supply routes.

Lloyds Confirms Cypriot Tanker Hit 6 Jul

JN081305 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] The British paper *Lloyds List* today confirmed that a Cypriot tanker was hit off the Iranian coast on 6 July. The paper, which is issued by the British Lloyds Insurance Company, said a fire erupted aboard the 78,200-ton Cypriot oil tanker *Nikos Kazantzakis* after it was hit by an Iraqi missile.

A military spokesman reported the day before yesterday that our Air Force had scored an accurate and effective hit on a large maritime target near the Iranian coast.

Shamir Denies North Testimony on Funds to Contras

TA090424 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0400 GMT 9 Jul 87

[Text] Prime Minister Shamir has denied allegations by dismissed White House aide Oliver North that the idea of diverting profits from arms sales to Iran may have come originally from Israel. Shamir emphasised a previous Israel Government statement that Israel had no connection with the transfer of funds to the contra rebels.

Peres Leaves for Geneva; To Meet With Mubarak

TA091020 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1000 GMT 9 Jul 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Peres has left for Geneva, where he will meet later today with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak. Both leaders are to attend a UN Conference on Trade and Development. Last night Prime Minister Shamir said he could not give his blessing for the Peres meeting with Mubarak.

Shamir Scores Mubarak Talks

TA090433 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0400 GMT 9 Jul 87

[Text] Prime Minister Shamir said he could not give his blessing to Foreign Minister Peres' meeting in Geneva today with President Mubarak of Egypt. Shamir said Peres knows well his stand on an international conference, as does Mubarak. He added that he expected nothing new to come out of the talks.

Shamir, speaking at the jubilee of Kibbutz Tirat Zevi last night, again called on Jordan to join direct talks with Israel under U.S. auspices. He stressed that if Jordan was not ready for such talks, then the two sides should form working committees to deal with their joint problems.

The prime minister also responded to criticism over his vote supporting yesterday's proposal for an amnesty for the Jewish underground. Shamir appeared to have voted against the position of the government as defined by the justice minister in his Knesset speech against the measure. But Shamir said the government never formally took up the issue and all he did was express his personal view.

Soviet Contacts Begin; Ties With Hungary Viewed

TA090604 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 9 Jul 87 p 3

[Report by political correspondent 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] The Soviets have begun initial contacts with Israel on technical matters concerning the Soviet consular delegation's visit to Israel.

The Soviets have begun to make inquiries into the cost of hotels in Tel Aviv and have begun searching for offices to be used by the delegation for its work in Israel. Despite this, Jerusalem has still not received word about the date of the delegation's visit.

Yesha'yahu 'Anug, Foreign Ministry assistant director general, has met in Vienna with a senior official in the Hungarian Foreign Affairs Ministry and talked with him about establishing low-level diplomatic relations. Hungary has shown an interest in setting up an interest office in Tel Aviv similar to the Polish example. Contacts will continue in the near future.

PLP Joins No-Confidence Bid; Shamir Vote Criticized

TA081920 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1800 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] The Progressive List for Peace [PLP] and MAPAM have submitted motions of no-confidence in the government in the wake of the prime minister's vote today in favor of granting amnesty to the Jewish underground convicts. Knesset Member [MK] Mati Peled of the PLP states in his motion that through his vote Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir granted moral and political support to murderous actions. MK El'azar Granot of MAPAM says that the prime minister has condoned people who committed acts of terrorism only because they are Jews. The motions will be discussed next Monday. Our Knesset correspondent Dan Scemama reports that the prime minister's vote in favor of the amnesty law aroused great astonishment in the Knesset. There has never before been a precedent whereby the justice minister, speaking in the Knesset on behalf of the government, has demanded the removal of a draft law, while at the same time the prime minister voted for it. It has been learned from the Prime Minister's Office that Justice Minister Avraham Sharir was not expressing the government's position but his own, and that is why Mr Shamir was able to vote in favor of a law granting amnesty to the Jewish underground convicts. Meanwhile, the members of the action committee for the Jewish underground convicts have congratulated the prime minister for his personal vote. At the same time, they voiced their disappointment over his inability to dominate, as they put it, his fellow colleagues in the Likud faction and force them to vote in favor of the law.

CRM Submits No-Confidence Motion

TA091031 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1000 GMT 9 Jul 87

[Text] The Citizens Rights Movement [CRM] has submitted a no-confidence motion against the government. The gist of the motion is as follows: The prime minister is a proponent of terrorism and an opponent of peace. This is what the CRM claims, noting that Shamir's support for terrorism as reflected in the Knesset yesterday is grave, 10 times more serious than his stubborn opposition to any peace initiative in the region.

AL-FAJR Assesses PLO-Jordanian Relations

NC071216 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic 26 Jun 87 p 1

[Editorial entitled: "Palestinian-Jordanian Relations and Electoral Laws in Jordan"]

[Text] One of the PLO's firmest and most prominent stands is its rejection of settlement or a substitute homeland. This position has been established in all Arab countries, despite the collusive

Arab axis policies which have tried to destroy it many times in many different ways. The PLO has repeatedly explained its position of rejecting settlement or a substitute homeland in Jordan, Lebanon, or any other Arab land. Our Palestinian people, represented by their organizations and institutions, have been eager to reiterate this firm position in order to assert the soundness of their legitimate and sole representative, the PLO, and also to implement the principle of dealing with Arab countries on an equal basis. According to this, the PLO and the Arab countries do not interfere in each other's internal affairs. The Palestinian people, by reiterating their stand, have also attempted to gain all possible Arab and Palestinian support for the Palestinian people's rights to a national homeland.

However, the Jordanian Government, as is apparent now and since the declaration of the Jordanian parliament's electoral law in 1986, is working to destroy this legitimate Palestinian stand by including the Palestinian camps in Jordan in its upcoming elections.

The Palestinian refugees in Jordan are guests in an Arab state, and this should not mean oppression, a merger, or a fait accompli to impose a particular policy that will eventually only lead to either settlement of the Palestinians or to a substitute homeland. The Palestinians' affairs in Jordan, as well as in other Arab states, are part of the PLO's affairs. Despite its caution not to interfere in any Arab country's affairs, the PLO wants the Arab countries to also respect the Palestinian situation by refraining from imposing anything on the Palestinians or from encroaching upon their rights.

Following its meetings in Tunis last month, the PLO Executive Committee, in a direct request, asked Jordan to abandon the plan of electing deputies from among the representatives of the Palestinian refugee camps so that Palestinian-Jordanian relations, which had encountered various obstacles in the past few months and which are still facing problems, could be maintained. The Jordanian Government's insistence on implementing its plan means the escalation of these problems and new and greater damage to the relations and interests of the fraternal Palestinian and Jordanian peoples. We do not believe anyone should allow such dangers to materialize.

Sinyurah, Weizman Discuss Terrorism, Water Issue

TA080818 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 8 Jul 87 P 2

[Report by Ken Schachter]

[Excerpt] Tel Aviv — Minister-Without-Portfolio 'Ezer Weizman yesterday called on Palestinians to declare a terrorism "ceasefire," as he joined the Egyptian ambassador and a Palestinian newspaper editor in lamenting the high economic and moral cost of failure to seize the initiative for peace.

Turning to *Al-Fajr* editor Hanna Sinyurah, at a forum held here by the International Centre for Peace in the Middle East, Weizman said: "Hanna, cease fire. It's difficult to talk to Israelis about direct talks when a woman loses a leg on a Haifa beach. My message to Hanna Sinyurah is, 'please, no bombs in the sand'." Police are still seeking the person who planted the bomb a few weeks ago.

For his part, Sinyurah deplored the "dumping" of Israeli produce at below-market prices in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, as well as the diversion of water from Arab land to Jewish settlements.

Alluding to a plan to drill a deep well near Bethlehem, Sinyurah criticized Israel for its "unilateral" action. It is feared that the project will deplete Arab sources of water on the West Bank. "At least 80 per cent should be allocated to Palestinians," he said. "We are arriving at the point where we won't have enough water to carry on daily life. Water is part of sovereignty."

In an interview before his speech, Sinyurah said he would decide whether to run for mayor of Jerusalem in mid-August. [passage omitted]

Official Says Water Project Will Guarantee Rights

TA070802 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 7 Jul 87 pp 1, 9

[Report by Joel Greenberg]

[Text] Work on a controversial Israeli water-drilling project near Bethlehem will begin only if Arab water rights in the area are guaranteed in a legally binding contract, Coordinator of Activities in the territories Shmu'el Goren said yesterday.

"If Arab rights are harmed, we will not allow this project to get underway," Goren told reporters in Tel Aviv in his first public comments on the scheme, which is to pump water mostly to Jerusalem and Jewish settlements.

Goren confirmed details of the project reported in *The Jerusalem Post* and conceded that the deep drilling scheme could deplete wells serving Arab communities in the area. However, he reiterated the conditions set by the Judaea and Samaria Civil Administration for final approval of the project, which was recently approved in principle by Defence Minister Rabin in a meeting with Goren.

"We will enter negotiations on the scheme on condition that Arab rights are not infringed on in any way," Goren said. He said the Civil Administration would demand compensation for Arab communities if their water rates increase as a result of the project.

Goren said legal experts from the Defence Ministry and the water commissioner were currently negotiating the terms, and that legal representatives of the Mekorot company, which is to distribute the water pumped by the project, have also participated in the discussions.

Goren said U.S. officials had contacted his office about the project, but that a complete explanation must wait for final details to be worked out. Arab mayors in the Bethlehem area had not been officially notified of the scheme, Goren said, because the project was still in the planning stage. When it is complete,

Israeli officials will meet with the mayors, explain the plan and hear their opinions, he said.

Gorev said the project had been proposed by the U.S.-based Moriah drilling firm as a means to obtain water for both Jews and Arabs in Jerusalem and along the central mountain ridge. The project could pump as much as 20 million cubic metres of water a year and would cost more than $10 million, he said. Moriah has already signed a contract with Mekorot to carry out the project.

Jordan said yesterday it would complain to the UN about the new plan.

AL-FAJR Denounces Water Plan

NC081705 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic 27 Jun 87 P 1

[Editorial: "A New Link in the Suffocating Chain"]

[Text] Israeli ambitions are apparently not restricted to expanding into Arab territory by confiscating land, emptying it of its population, and then filling it with settlements. They also extend to what is underneath this land.

The new Israeli plan to seize West Bank water, revealed by *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday, embodies the new policy and adds a new link to the suffocating chain that hangs around the neck of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories.

The seizure of underground Arab water and its diversion to Israel is tantamount to plundering all the elements for life and survival of the Palestinian people. In this way, the Palestinians will be turned not merely into people who have neither identity nor entity, but into people who do not possess the basic necessities of life.

The Israeli project, the details of which were outlined by the Israeli newspaper, will cause the water supply of the towns of Bethlehem, Bayt Jala, and Bayt Sahur and of the villages surrounding them to dry up, thus turning these areas into a waterless desert.

It is ironic that this Israeli plan should come at a time when Israel is professing a desire for peace and displaying a pretended intention of ending the crisis. In reality, it is creating new hotbeds of tension within the crisis and is driving it several steps backwards. By such actions it emphasizes the fact that it does not want peace, but Arab territory, above and below the ground.

We warn of the danger inherent in the new project, which contravenes the provisions of international charters and treaties. We urge the international community, represented by the United Nations, to shoulder its responsibility toward humanity by preventing the implementation of this project, which violates international law and constitutes a flagrant attack on the presence of Palestinian Arabs on their national soil.

Shahal Proposal on Jerusalem Electricity Endorsed

TA081133 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] The Inner Cabinet today endorsed Minister Shahal's proposal that the conditions for the franchise given to the [East] Jerusalem Electric Company be changed. The decision was that within the next few days, the energy minister and the defense minister wouldpresent draft laws stipulating that the Israel Electricity Company will provide all the electricity services to the Jewish neighborhoods of Jerusalem, including the Jewish Quarter, the Western Wall square, and the Jewish settlements in Judaea and Samaria. The Jerusalem Electric Company will receive a 10- to 15-year franchise to supply electricity to the Arab quarters of Jerusalem only.

Our correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami notes that the debate on the new policy toward South Africa was deferred, owing to the need to adjourn the Inner Cabinet session hastily [to allow its members to vote in the Knesset debate on various draft bills].

Flight Agreement Signed With Egypt 8 Jul

TA080822 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] Israel and Egypt signed a flight agreement in Jerusalem this morning. Our correspondent Menahem Friedman reports that the accord regulates flight control coordination between the two countries and between them and Kenya. The Egyptian ambassador expressed the hope that this agreement will help to bring the two countries closer to each other.

Additional Cairo-Amman Bank Branches To Open

TA081836 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] The Cairo-Amman Bank p[l]ans to open another three branches in Judaea and Samaria [a]ddition to the three that have just been opened. First to come will be the branches in Ramallah, Hebron and Jenin. At the next stage, there will be branches in Jericho, Bethlehem, and Tulkarm. All of these branches have been closed since the 6-Day War. Our correspondent Steve Rodan has learned this from sources close to Jawdat Sha'Sha'ah, the manager of the bank.

IDF Orders East Jerusalem Theater Closed

TA081036 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1000 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] The commander of the Central Command has ordered the East Jerusalem Nizha al-Haqawati theater closed for 12 hours. The order was issued to prevent a rally by PFLP activists. Our correspondent notes that the theater serves as a meeting place for illegal organizations and a stage for incitement. The IDF has warned that if this continues, the place will continue to be closed down whenever necessary.

QNA Reports Al-Hasan Talks in Amman, Milhim Remarks
JN080855 Doha QNA in Arabic 1950 GMT 7 Jul 87

[Text] Amman, 7 Jul (QNA) — Hani al-Hasan, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's political adviser, arrived in Amman today on a visit to Jordan scheduled to last several days. He held talks with a number of Jordanian officials to get acquainted with the Jordanian view on the resumption of Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue.

PLO Executive Committee member Muhammad Milhim told a QNA correspondent in Amman today that he and PLO Executive Committee Member 'Abd al-Razzaq al-Yahya were entrusted to hold similar contacts with the Jordanian Government to comprehensively appraise the cooperation march between the two sides and attempt to draw up a new [word indistinct] for dialogue between them and [words indistinct] and the Arab efforts on the road of joint action.

Milhim noted that the PLO is conducting Arab and international contacts to unveil the dimensions of the Zionist plan to control water sources in the occupied West Bank. He said that contacts have been held between representatives of municipal councils in occupied Palestine and the consuls of the big powers to pressure the occupation authorities into stopping the implementation of this plan.

Turkish Newspaper Interviews King Husayn
NC071059 Istanbul CUMHURIYET in Turkish 1 Jul 87 p 13

["Exclusive" interview with King Husayn of Jordan by an unidentified *Anatolia Agency* correspondent in Ankara; date not given]

[Text] [Correspondent] The press has reported that you have brought a message to President Evren from President Hafiz al-Asad of Syria. If this is true, can you tell us about its content?

[Husayn] I did not carry a special message from Syria to Turkey. I did visit Syria before I arrived in Turkey. Relations between Turkey and Syria are developing, and we hope that they will become stronger. Naturally, I conveyed Al-Asad's greetings. The Syrian prime minister visited Turkey some time ago, and I hope that Prime Minister Ozal will visit Syria in the near future. These are positive and important steps toward strengthening relations between the two countries.

[Correspondent] Reports have circulated to the effect that an effort is being made to set up a new alliance in the Middle East, to include Turkey, and that you are trying to eliminate the differences between Iraq and Syria. In fact, it has been reported that you have agreed to mediate.

[Husayn] Such reports are exaggerated and distorted. We are not trying to create alliances in the region. We are convinced that Jordan is an important element between Iraq and Syria at a time when the region is facing threats. Therefore, it is natural for us to do everything we can to contribute toward reconciliation between the two countries. For my part, I am doing my best to achieve this objective.

[Correspondent] You said during a speech in Ankara that you welcomed Turkey's efforts to end the Iran-Iraq war. However, since no results have been noted thus far, what do you suggest Turkey do in the future?

[Husayn] I believe that Turkey will play a role in ending the painful Iran-Iraq war, which has lasted so long and resulted in the deaths of thousands. I believe that Turkey will use every opportunity in that regard. We are well aware that Iraq has been responding favorably, for a long time now, to every initiative aimed at ending the war. The fighting may stop when the warring sides realize that they have to withdraw to their pre-war boundaries, exchange prisoners, and end hostilities. We hope Iran will also realize that there is a reason to end the war. By putting moral pressure on Iran, Turkey, the Arab countries, the Islamic world, and all other countries of the world can help to make Iran realize that maintaining its present stand is harmful and creates significant dangers not only for the two countries but for the entire region.

[Correspondent] You abrogated the agreement you concluded with the PLO in 1985. Has there been any effort to reactivate that agreement? Which formula does Jordan prefer for the representation of Palestinians at an international conference for peace in the Middle East?

[Husayn] Significant ground has been covered since the 1985 agreement. An international conference has been proposed in which all parties concerned with disputes related to the Palestinians, represented by the PLO, will participate, including the permanent members of the UN Security Council. I believe our agreement with the PLO is the basis for the favorable developments which have occurred thus far. We are convinced that no results can be achieved through a conference which excludes the PLO, the representative of the Palestinian people. Therefore, we insist that they be invited; we hope that they will be invited. We believe our relations with the PLO and its activities in the past should not be regarded as an obstacle to convening an international conference anywhere in the world and as soon as possible. Nor should these be regarded as obstructing an invitation to all parties — including the PLO — to participate. I am confident the Palestinians will attend such an international forum. I am certain that such a conference is the only way to resolve the problems which have caused instability in the region for so many years.

[Correspondent] Could you explain your views of Prime Minister Ozal's Peace Water Project, which will pipe water to Syria, Jordan, and other Arab countries?

[Husayn] It is a worthwhile project which deserves study by all concerned. Water is extremely important to our existence in this part of the world.

Delegation Reportedly To Visit Moscow 'Next Week'

JN081542 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 7 Jul 87 p 1

[Text] *Al-Ittihad* has learned that a high-level Jordanian delegation will head for Moscow at the beginning of next week to hold important miltiary and political talks with Soviet leaders. *Al-Ittihad* has also learned that the delegation's talks will focus on the issee of supplying Jordan with its military requirements of sophisticated weapons, epsecially after Jordan purchased SAM air defense units from the Soviet Union. The talks will also deal with the efforts being made to hold an international peace conference on the Middle East. The delegation is expected to prepare for the Jordanian monarch's forthcoming visit to the Soviet Union in response to an invitation from Soviet leaders.

Dudin Denounces Israeli Water 'Scheme'

JN090606 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 9 Jul 87 p 1

[Text] Amman (J.T.) — Jordan on Wednesday appealed to international forums and organisations to intervene and stop Israel from implementing a plan to pump water from the occupied West Bank.

The appeal was issued by Occupied Territories Affairs Minister Marwan Dudin. In a statement carried by the *Jordan News Agency*, Petra, Mr. Dudin pointed out that the Israeli plan was a flagrant violation of international conventions and U.N. resolutions. The government is in contact with the U.N. and other international organisations over the Israeli scheme, the minister said.

Under the Israeli plan, about 20 million cubic metres of water will be pumped every year from an area southeast of the occupied West Bank town of Bethlehem. Most of the water so pumped will be used to cater Jewish settlements in the West Bank. The Israeli Defence Ministry has approved the plan, which West Bank mayors have said will deprive the Palestinian towns and villages around Bethlehem and the city itself of water.

Jordan has instructed its permanent representative at the U.N. to lodge a protest over the scheme with the world body saying the Kingdom reserved the right to call for a Security Council meeting to discuss the issue.

Mr. Dudin said Wednesday that since 1967 Israel had been seizing water resources in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and imposing restrictions preventing Arabs from exploiting their water resources for agricultural and drinking purposes. At the same time, Israel continued to explore for and supply water to Jewish settlements in the occupied territories, Mr. Dudin said, pointing out that the settlements' consumption of water was double of that of the entire West Bank.

These Israeli measures are part of the Jewish state's schemes aimed at Judaising the occupied territories and evicting their legitimate owners by confiscating their land and building new settlements, the minister said.

The minister noted that although 720 water wells had been drilled before Israel's occupation of the West Bank in 1967, most Arab towns and villages in the now-occupied territory suffer from a relatively permanent shortage of water during summer as a result of arbitrary Israeli actions. The Israeli authorities have demolished 140 water pumps used by Arab farmers in the West Bank for irrigation purposes, the minister said.

Furthermore, he said, the occupation authorities have also destroyed irrigation canals and sealed off large areas of agricultural lands in the Jordan Valley and also blocked many irrigation projects in Nabulus, Ramallah, Bayt Sahur, Bethlehem, Hebron and Bayt Jala in addition to drilling deep wells near Arab water resources and thus drying Arab wells.

In the occupied Gaza Strip, Mr. Dudin said, 39 per cent of the inhabitants on the refugee camps there and 11 percent of the houses in Gaza City do not have water supply.

Group Threatens to Send Glass to 'Hell' in 2 Days

NC090527 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0457 GMT 9 Jul 87

[Text] The Organization of Right Against Falsehood has threatened to send U.S. journalist Charles Glass to hell within 48 hours. In a statement published this morning, the organization said Glass will be tried for his spying operations, which obstruct our people's freedom, and warned that Glass and his masters will face hell unless imperialism responds to its demands within 48 hours. The statement set the following demands:

1. Noninterference in Gulf affairs and removal of American flags from oil tankers and ships because this intervention jeopardizes U.S. interests and the lives of hostages held by the organization.

2. Payment of $10 million is ransom for the people in Lebanon.

3. Pressure by the U.S. Administration on the regime in Lebanon to bring about the release of some 2,000 kidnapped citizens in return for the release of three hostages, including Anglican envoy Terry Waite.

4. Negotiation with the wife of U.S. journalist Glass to bring about his release after all other demands are met.

Second Group Reasserts Glass in its Custody

NC091646 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1626 GMT 9 Jul 87

[Text] The group calling itself the Organization for the Defense of the Free People has sent a typewritten statement to a foreign news agency in West Beirut, saying that it will continue to hold U.S. journalist Charles Glass for further investigation until facts are established.

The organization dismisses claims contained in a statement by an unknown group calling itself the Organization of Right Against Falsehood, which has declared that it is holding Glass and has set conditions for his release. This new statement asserts that the Organization of Right Against Falsehood is merely a cover for intelligence organs which are trying to exploit Glass' detention for their own ends.

'High-Level' Sources Say Waite Died in Tehran

JN090745 Amman AKHBAR AL-USBU' in Arabic 9 Jul 87 pp 1, 31

["Exclusive"]

[Text] High-level diplomatic sources have asserted to *Akhbar al-Usbu'* that the Reverend Terry Waite, envoy of the archbishop of Canterbury, who was kidnapped in Beirut several months ago, died after he was transferred to Tehran 1 month ago.

The sources said that Waite was moved to Tehran by pro-Iranian Lebanese groups, together with several Western hostages who were transferred from Lebanon to Iran, a move that gave rise to a great deal of controversy some weeks ago.

The same sources added that while in Tehran, Waite was subjected to psychological and physical pressure that resulted in his death. In order to avoid international reactions amid such complex circumstances, Iran secretly transferred Waite's body to Lebanon.

Lebanese Shi'ite sources leaked a report to some newspaper correspondents in Beirut claiming that Waite had died of a heart attack in Lebanon.

The well-informed diplomatic sou[illegible]l to *Akhbar al-Usbu'* that intensive contacts a[illegible]ween London, Damascus, Beirut, and Tehra[illegible]he dilemma and to hand over Waite's body t[illegible]urch which had sent him to Beirut to bring about the release of the hostages.

The Mojahedin-e Khalq organization, which opposes the Iranian regime, has confirmed that it has evidence that the Iranian intelligence service was behind the abduction of foreign hostages in Lebanon. An official of the organization, who declined to disclose his name, said in Washington that kidnapping decisions are directly made by the 18th Branch of the Iranian Ministry of Intelligence, a branch directly responsible for the office of the pro-Iranian Hizballah.

New Group Claims Kidnapping of West Germans

NC081757 Paris AFP in English 1752 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] Beirut, July 8 (AFP) — A hitherto unknown group on Wednesday claimed responsibility for the January kidnapping of two West Germans here.

In a typewritten Arabic statement to the Beirut daily *Al-Nahar*, the Mujahidin for Freedom said they were holding the two hostages, Rudolf Cordes and Alfred Schmidt.

Accompanying the statement was a photocopy of Mr. Cordes's passport.

Mr. Cordes, 53, kidnapped on January 17, was a representative of the West German chemical firm Hoechst. Mr. Schmidt, 46, kidnapped on January 20, was a technician for the Siemens electric appliances company.

The pro-Iranian Shi'ite fundamentalist Hizballah movement previously claimed responsibility for the abductions.

Hizballah said it would only release the two in exchange for Muhammad and 'Abbas Hamadah, two Lebanese brothers detained in West Germany in connection with the hijacking of a TWA airliner in 1985, during which a U.S. Navy diver was killed.

Meanwhile, Badr Turner, wife of U.S. hostage John [as received] Turner, pleaded with his kidnappers Wednesday to let him see their first baby, born two weeks ago.

"Please, let him see her," she begged at a news conference on the campus of Beirut University College [BUC], cradling her baby Joanne in her arms.

She added: "Everyone knows he is innocent."

Mrs. Turner lives on the campus of BUC, as the wives of three other lecturers kidnapped with her husband - Robert Polhill and Alann Steen of the United States, and Mithileshwar Singh of India.

The BUC abductions were claimed by the Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine.

Paper Cites Iran Hostage 'Committee' Reports

PM081331 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 1-7 Jul 87 p 9

[Unattributed Report: "U.S. Hostages in Iran; High Committee Tries Them"]

[Text] The speculation and reports that have been circulating during the last 2 weeks regarding the transfer of a number of U.S. hostages to Iran for trial have intensified. These reports have coincided with confirmation by Iranian officials, among them Majlis Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani, concerning the formation of a special committee, whose members include Iranian clergymen and military officers, to discuss the issue of the hostages in Lebanon. This committee is to be the principal authority in negotiations concerning the fate of hostages, Americans in particular. Although Iranian sources have avoided naming the members of the committee, which has now been formed, there is a conviction in Western diplomatic circles that Rafsanjani is the prominent Iranian figure who is interested in this issue.

The information available indicates that the Iranians have summoned a number of Lebanese Shi'ite leaders, especially those who have connections with Hizballah, to "testify" before this committee. Among the names reported have been Shaykh 'Imad Mughniyah, whose name was mentioned in the case of the kidnapping of the British envoy Terry Waite, and 'Abd al-Hadi Hamadah, brother of Muhammad 'Ali Hamadah, who is detained in West Germany on a charge of participating in hijacking a U.S. plane to Beirut airport in 1985.

It has been reported that it was Shahpur Bakhtiar, the last Iranian prime minister of the Shah's era, who currently lives in Paris, who in early June made statements about the formation of a committee in Iran to try the hostages. Bakhtiar did not disclose the source of his information.

Leaders Return from Damascus; Al-Huss Comments

NC082002 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] Acting Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss returned from Damascus this evening after taking part in meetings in the Syrian capital between members of the Islamic Grouping and top Syrian officials, foremost among whom was Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. Al-Huss made the following statement upon his arrival:

Our meeting with President Hafiz al-Asad gave us the opportunity to discuss the grave circumstances resulting from the assassination of Prime Minister Rashid Karami and the need to adopt a responsible standpoint on the national level and deal with the challenges currently facing us. Only by adopting a responsible standpoint can we foil the schemes of the parties endeavoring to undermine the unity of the homeland and the people. Whoever committed this abominable crime was striking at the nationalist values which the martyred prime minister dedicated his whole life to defending and upholding. Foremost among these values are the unity and Arabism of Lebanon and the defense of human rights in our country.

Naturally, the conferees were fully agreed on the need to step up combined national efforts throughout Lebanon to safeguard these values. They were unanimous in the view that the assassination of Prime Minister Karami must be unraveled and the culprit punished; this is quite indispensable and must not be overlooked. Therefore, it was agreed that together with all those who share this viewpoint, regardless of the faction or area to which they belong, we should continue our concentrated efforts to deal with the situation that has resulted from the national disaster of the assassination of the Lebanese prime minister while under the protection of the military establishment. Once this objective is attained, it will be possible to solve the other pressing problems of Lebanon and its people with absolute objectivity and openness. President al-Asad has assured us of fraternal Syria's support for Lebanon in facing all threats, and its complete willingness to provide all the necessary assistance.

Husayn al-Husayni, speaker of the Chamber of Deputies; Defense Minsiter 'Adil 'Usayran; His Eminence Hasan Khalid, mufti of the Republic; and former prime ministers Taqiy al-Din al-Sulh and Rashid al-Sulh returned from Damascus this afternoon after taking part in the meetings there.

Army Chief 'Awn Responds to Karami Investigations

NC071316 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 7 Jul 87

[Text] Army Commander General Michel 'Awn has asserted that the Army is the party most damaged by Prime Minister Karami's assassination. It is also the party which now misses Karami's latest stands and his frank and firm position adopted toward those who attempted to destroy it.

'Awn revealed that Karami had recently urged that the Army be entrusted with the task of maintaining security in the entire administrative area of Beirut, both East and West, and had emphasized General 'Awn's command in particular.

The Army commander said that the prime minister's assassination was designed to also assassinate the Army's reputation, structure, and future role and bring chaos into the Lebanese house so that the divisionist and partitionist conspiracy could resume. With the Army's collapse, no legitimate force would remain that would be capable of telling every illegitimate presence to leave our land.

'Awn asserted that the Army is the only force whose will is not a pawn of any domestic or foreign party, adding that it is the only

force also free from any connection outside the scope of the supreme national interest. 'Awn stated that the Army is the only party that is able to ask all others: Where have you obtained your arms; why are you warring and for whom; and where are you going?

Commenting on the investigation into Karami's assassination, he asked: Which party other than the Lebanese Army gives facilities to the investigation of any issue? We defend the judiciary with one hand, and offer it the other for cutting off if we are proved guilty. Meanwhile, we are the target of aspersions, false accusations, and calumny from parties far and wide.

He added: The Army, which is the party most damaged by Karami's assassination, will be the greatest beneficiary of the revealed truth. Let everyone understand that falsehoods and instances of one-upmanship have limits. We will defend our position with words, stances, and guns, if necessary.

General 'Awn pointed out that while everyone else is seeking to increase divisions in Lebanon, the Army seeks to unify it. He noted that this unity was also the quest of Prime Minister Karami.

Amal Officer Kidnapped; Tension With Palestinians

NC081200 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] Security sources in the south have revealed to the Voice of Lebanon that Amal military official Abu Husayn Baddah was kidnapped 2 days ago on the Sidon road and that the Amal Movement has accused the Palestinian Struggle Front of detaining him.

Reports state that the Palestinians have demanded that an investigating committee of Muslim ulema in the south be formed to determine who is responsible for the new tension in relations between Amal and the Palestinians and to put an end to the reciprocal kidnappings. It has also been learned that the Amal command has reissued an order to its members not to go to Beirut via the coastal road in view of a state of alert among Palestinian ranks along the Sidon road.

Amal Claims Assassination Plan 'Uncovered'

NC081939 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1845 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] Amal sources have informed the *Al-Mashriq News Agency* that interrogation of four suspects in Amal Movement custody, accused of assassinating Lebanese Army Captain Kazim Darwish, has uncovered a plan to assassinate 18 political and partisan figures.

Meanwhile, recent security reports from Sidon indicate that Palestinian gunmen kidnapped Amal member Ahmad Hamzah in the Sidon area this evening.

Hizballah Calls for Armed Struggle Against Regime

LD091620 Tehran IRNA in English 1545 GMT 9 Jul 87

['"Islam Best Inspiration in Fight Against Zionism"' — IRNA headline]

[Text] Beirut, July 9, IRNA — "Armed struggle against the U.S.-backed regime ruling Lebanon is the only solution to the Lebanon's increasing crisis," said a statement released here Thursday by Hizballah (Party of God).

The statement reproached Lebanese political groups, saying they were out to attain their own political goals while the mujahidin resistance against Zionism was going to show how Islamic teachings provided the best inspiration in the fight against Zionism.

Syrians Reinforce Positions Around Hizballah Areas

NC091127 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 9 Jul 87

[Text] According to security reports, the Syrian occupation forces have continued reinforcing their positions around the Hizballah areas of influence, particularly in the Al-Biqa'. A Syrian special units force brought from Syria and deployed on the outskirts of Mashgharah, which constitutes an important Hizballah center in western Al-Biqa', has been reinforced with armored units that deployed between Qabb Ilyas and 'Ammiq, the main axis leading to Mashgharah. The Syrians massed additional forces in Ba'labakk and stepped up security measures at the approaches to the area.

In addition, informed sources said the Islamic leaders were asked in Damascus yesterday to provide political backing for any Syrian intervention against Hizballah gunmen in the southern suburb.

Lebanese Delegation Meets With Al-Asad, Khaddam

JN081624 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1515 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] At 1200 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received a Lebanese delegation comprising Shaykh Hasan Khalid, mufti of Lebanon; Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din, vice chairman of the Higher Shi'ite council; Shaykh Muhammad Abu Shaqrah, spiritual leader of the Druze community; Husayn al-Husayni, speaker of the Chamber of Deputies; Dr Salim al-Huss, Lebanese prime minister; Taqiy al-Dina al-Sulh and Rashid al-Sulh, former Lebanese prime ministers; 'Adil 'Usayran, Lebanese defense minister; Nabih Birri, minister of justice and reconstruction of the south; Walid Junblatt, minister of public work, transportation, and tourism; and 'Umar Karami.

The meeting was attended by Vice President Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar'.

During the meeting, a general review was made of the current situation in the Lebanese arena from all aspects in light of recent developments, including the assassination of Lebanese prime minister martyr Rashid Karami which so far has not been dealt with in the way it deserves. It is considered an abnormal political crime, as well as a national crime aimed at killing Lebanon's unity and obstructing national reconciliation among the Lebanese — a crime perpetrated by divisionists and Israeli agents.

The conferees also affirmed that finding and punishing the perpetrators and the planners of the crime is a top priority political issue with which any future political move is linked.

During the meeting, the conferees concentrated on the importance of reinforcing the national work to save Lebanon. The Lebanese brothers noted that the obstacles to resolving issues related to the Lebanese situation are the groups collaborating with Israel.

The president affirmed to the Lebanese brothers that Syria supports the stands of nationalist strugglers in Lebanon who are defending united Arab Lebanon, which is shouldering its national and pan-Arab responsibilities.

Al-Asad Receives Envoy Vernon Walters 6 Jul

JN061814 Damascus Television Service in Arabic
1730 GMT 6 Jul 87

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad today received Mr Vernon Walters, personal envoy of U.S. President Ronald Reagan, and the delegation accompanying him. Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and the U.S. charge d'affaires in Damascus also attended the meeting. Issues related to current developments in the region and to relations between Syria and the United States were discussed.

TISHRIN Comments on Visit

JN080623 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0430 GMT 8 Jul 87

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Arbitrary Classification," the newspaper *Tishrin* says: After it has been confirmed that the U.S. official, the head of Washington's mission to the United Nations, will visit Damascus, analysts interested in the Middle East issue left no stone unturned. From their analyses, we can deduce the following:

Syria, the influential force in the Middle East region, cannot be ignored in international calculations. Those who thought that Syria is vulnerable have discovered that it is lying in wait for them everywhere.

The paper stresses that Syria holds dialogue with other parties on the basis of mutual respect, in accordance with its commitment to international relations based on mutual benefit, and proceeding from its independent role, its concern for its sovereignty, and the interests of its Arab nation. Syria's doors are open to anything concerning its responsible regional and international stand. What Syria wants is well-known. Past events have proven the credibility of its course regarding its concern about its firm and principled stand.

Radio Presents Law on Political Parties
LD090255 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1530 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] The Law on Political Parties

Chapter One: General Provisions

Article 1. This law has been designed for the creation and manner of activities of political parties in the DRA.

Article 2. Political parties can bring together in their ranks all strata and classes of society to increase unity and to enhance the level of political activity in accordance with a specific program.

Article 3.
1) Political parties can admit members of society without consideration of their nationality, race, language, tribe, sex, religion, education, wealth, social status, or place of residence;
2) DRA subjects who have reached the age of 18 can hold membership in a political party.

Article 4. The head offices of the political parties will be in the capital. Maintaining the security and protection of the offices of the political parties is the duty of the government.

Article 5. Political parties will observe and respect the sacred religion of Islam; the religious, national, historical, and cultural traditions of the people of Afghanistan; and their policy and constitution will be in conformity with the following principles:
1) Defending the independence, national sovereignty, territorial integrity, and socioeconomic development of the country;
2) Refraining from armed struggle against the state sovereignty and against other political parties;
3) Supporting national reconciliation and avoiding war objectives;
4) Refraining from support of colonialism, neocolonialism, imperialism, Zionism, racism, and apartheid;
5) Observing the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the principle of peaceful coexistence, friendship, and cooperation with all peoples of the world, and the policy of nonalignment, as well as positive and active neutrality;
6) Observation of the DRA Basic Principles and provisions of the laws.

Article 6. Political parties, irrespective of number and seniority, will operate freely in accordance with the provisions of this law.

Article 7. The policy of political parties cannot be based on prejudice or the idea of superiority of nations. Political parties will have a national character in composition.

Chapter Two: The Manner for the Formation and Dissolution of Political Parties

Article 8.
1) DRA subjects have the right to form political parties in accordance with this law;
2) Application for the formation of a political party can be presented by the founding members, who cannot number less than 30 men;
3) A political party cannot be formed by less than 500 men.

Article 9. Application for the formation of a political party will be presented to the Presidium of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA, together with the following documents:
1) General outline, objectives of the party, and financial resources;
2) List of the founders of the party.

Article 10. The Presidium of the Revolutionary Council will consider an application for the formation of a political party and will decide within 2 months to accept or reject the application in accordance with law.

Article 11.
1) A political party, whose application is accepted, must present its constitution for registration to the Presidium of the Revolutionary Council within 4 months;
2) Political parties which had been formed prior to the enactment of this law will be registered in accordance with Paragraph 1 of this article;
3) The Presidium of the Revolutionary Council can, on the basis of Article 5 of this law, refuse registration of a political party.

Article 12. A political party, after registering its constitution with the Presidium of the Revolutionary Council, may commence operation.

Article 13. A political party, after registering its constitution, will have the following rights:
1) Membership in the DRA National Front;
2) Presenting candidates for election in the DRA organs of state power and administration;
3) Forming political unity with other parties in a permanent or temporary manner;
4) Expressing free and open opinion on political, socioeconomic, and cultural issues in a verbal or written form in accordance with the law;
5) Establishing a publication organ and making use of the country's press in accordance with the law;
6) Other rights in line with the objectives and duties of the political party's constitution in accordance with DRA laws.

Article 14. A political party will have the following duties:
1) To observe the Basic Principles and laws;
2) To present information to the Presidium of the Revolutionary Council on any amendment of policy or constitution within 10 days after the amendment;
3) To refrain from insulting, intimidating, or threatening other political parties or their members;
4) To include armed detachments of the political parties in the organization of the DRA Civil Armed Forces after the registration of these parties.

Article 15. A political party which is being formed in accordance with this law cannot be dissolved without legal reasons.

A political party can be dissolved by the decision of a special court consisting of impartial justices, which will be formed by the Presidium of the Revolutionary Council and with the advice of

the Presidium of the Revolutionary Council. In this case the trial will be held in an open court.

Chapter Three: Concluding Provisions

Article 16. When an application to form a political party is rejected because of lawful obstacles, an application can be made again for the formation of this party following the removal of these obstacles.

Article 17.
1) Representatives of the founding members of a political party have the right to take part in the session of the Presidium of the DRA Revolutionary Council and present necessary information during the consideration of application for the formation and registration of a political party;
2) The leaders of a political party have the right to take part in the session of the court or session of the Presidium of the Revolutionary Council and present their reasons when considering the issue of dissolution or formation of a party.

Article 18. This law comes into force after approval and will be published in the Official Gazette.

'Professional Terrorists' Arrested in Vardak

LD082011 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] Eleven professional terrorists, who are dependent on extremist opposition groups and who had been engaged in killing and terrorism in Vardak Province, have been arrested by the country's security forces and handed over to the forces of law.

The BIA has reported that the peace-loving people of Vardak Province recently contacted the security forces and expressed their concern about the existence of hideouts and (?weapons) depots in the [words indistinct] region of Vardak Province.

In order to prevent the rebels' crimes, the security forces took action and arrested 11 of the extremist elements. They also seized 4 persons and ammunition depots consisting of 24 surface-to-surface missiles, 1 [words indistinct] units, 80 rockets, 41 boxes of DSHK and light-caliber weapon ammunition, and antigovernment leaflets.

Delegation To Visit Ailing Tribal Leader in Delhi

LD091020 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0509 GMT 9 Jul 87

[Text] Kabul, July 8, *Bakhtar* — A high-ranking party and state delegation of the DRA headed by Sulayman La'eq, Politburo member of the PDPA CC and minister of tribal affairs and nationalities, left Kabul for New Delhi to visit Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, the great leader of Pushtuns, who has been under treatment in New Delhi.

The members of the party and state delegation are Muhammad Aslam Watanjar, Politburo member of the PDPA CC and minister of communications; Abdul Hamid Mohtat, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers; Ghulam Sarwar Mansur, president of the Supreme Council of Scholars and Clergymen; Khadem Husayn Baig, chairman of the Central Council of Hazara Nationality; Sarwar Yuresh, president of the State Committee of BIA; and Sarferaz Mohmand, deputy foreign minister. A number of relatives and friends of Khan Abdul Wali Khan also left for New Delhi to visit him there.

The Afghan delegation was seen off by high-ranking party and state officials and some representatives of Pushtun and Baluch tribes at Kabul International Airport.

Foreign Minister on Ershad PRC Visit, India Ties

BK081410 Dhaka Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] Bangladesh Foreign Minister Humayun Rashid Chowdhury has described President Ershad's state visit to China as a complete success. He said discussions between President Ershad and the Chinese leaders were most fruitful. The relations between the two countries reached a historic peak, he said. Briefing newsmen in Dhaka Wednesday [8 July], Bangladesh foreign minister said both the countries want peace because we all need it to concentrate on our problems so as to give an acceptable standard of living to our peoples.

Replying to a question, he said possibilities were discussed with the Chinese leaders for selling more Bangladeshi goods to China to help remove the trade imbalance.

Replying to another question, Mr Chowdhury said efforts continue to seek peaceful negotiated settlement of our problems with India. We shall not deflect from the peace efforts and we shall not be satisfied unless these efforts produce results.

Replying to yet another question on Bangladesh-India relations in the wake of the killing of seven Bangladesh Rifles [BDR] personnel by the Indian Border Security Force [BSF] on the 25th of June, he firmly repeated that there is incontrovertible evidence that people from the Indian side of the border in BSF uniform had killed the BDR personnel who were on patrol duty. He said the Bangladesh Government has taken up the issue with the Indian Government and it is hoped that all concerned will ensure that repetition of such gruesome killing does not take place in the larger interest of peace and good-neighborliness.

The Bangladesh foreign minister told another questioner that he will discuss a lot of things with Iranian leaders during his forthcoming visit to Tehran. The thrust of the discussions will be on bilateral relations, but if asked by both sides, Bangladesh will play a mediating role toward bringing an end to the Gulf war. It has always been an endeavor as a member of the ICO to seek the end of the Iran-Iraq hostility, he said.

The foreign minister also referred to the forthcoming visit of the Palestine Liberation Organization [PLO] chairman, Yasir 'Arafat, and said he will have a meeting with president of Bangladesh and will receive the World Justice Day award by the Bangladesh Society for the Rule of Law. He described the PLO chairman's visit as very important in terms of Bangladesh's bilateral relations with the PLO.

IRNA Correction on Iranian Official's Meeting

The following correction to the item headlined "Iranian Official Meets Deputy Foreign Minister," published in the 8 July Near East & South Asia *Daily Report* on page Q 1, is supplied by Tehran IRNA in English at 1411 GMT on 8 July:

paragraph two, lines one and two reads: forthcoming visit to Tehran of his country's Foreign Minister Humayun Rashid Chowdhury would be a positive step... (correcting which foreign minister will visit which country)

Further Reportage, Comment on Bus Attacks

Gandhi: 'Fight Communal Violence'

BK090928 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 9 Jul 87

[Text] In Delhi, all markets, business houses, and industrial establishments are closed today in response to a bundh [strike] call to protest against the killings of bus passengers in Punjab and Haryana. Attendance in offices and banks is thin. All educational institutions are closed. Buses and taxis are off the road, but a few autorickshaws and private vehicles are plying.

Curfew was imposed in Patel Nagar area in central Delhi following some stray incidents of arson. Some vehicles were set on fire by a mob. Senior officers of Delhi police rushed to the area. A police spokesman said that the situation is fully under control. Police reinforcement has been sent to the area. Some reports of deflating of tires of vehicles and some other stray incidents by miscreants have also come in. Essential services like electricity, water, and health services have been exempted from the purview of the bundh. the bundh call was given by the Bharatiya Janata Party [BJP], the Janata Party, the Delhi state Akali Dal-Longowal Group, and some other organizations. Houz Kazi and Kamla Market areas of the Walled City are under curfew for the second day today. Army units have been positioned in Houz Kazi as a precautionary measure.

In Uttar Pradesh, all shops and business establishments in Allahabad city remained closed today in protest against the killings. The Sikhs of the city in a resolution expressed a deep anguish over the massacre.

In Rajasthan, an all-party meeting convened by the chief minister, Mr Hari Deo Joshi, condemned the killings. Shops in Jaipur city remained closed today in response to a bundh call by the BJP.

In Himachal Pradesh, the Army held flag marches in Kulu and (Banjar) towns. All educational institutions in Kulu District have been closed for 3 days. The Himachal Road Transport has resumed its bus services from today. However, interstate night services remained suspended.

The Jammu and Kashmir Assembly has condemned the massacre. In a resolution it said the act of the terrorists is aimed at weakening the democratic fabric of the country.

In Bombay, the opposition parties have given a call for a bundh tomorrow.

The Haryana government has announced an ex gratia payment of 5,000 rupees each to the people whose shops were either burned or looted by mobs following the killings at Lalru and Fatehabad. This was announced by the chief minister, Mr Devi Lal, in Chandigarh today. He said the administration has been directed to recover the looted property and return it to the owners. He appealed to the people to maintain communal harmony and defeat the evil designs of antisocial elements disturbing peace in the state.

The prime minister called upon the people to fight communal forces unitedly. Incidents of terrorist violence cannot be checked by the government machinery alone. It is a united fight by the government and the people.

The prime minister was inaugurating the Prakrit Bhasha Bhawan [house of ancient languages] set up by a Jain institution — Sri Kundu Kundu Bharati. He also laid the foundation stone of the institution's library.

Protests, Strikes in North

BK081722 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Excerpt] A near total bundh [strike] was observed today in many cities and towns in the northern parts of the country in protest against the killings of bus passengers in Punjab and Haryana by terrorists. A call for the bundh was given by various political parties and a number of social and religous organizations.

In Punjab and the union territory of Chandigarh, all shops and business establishments remained closed. Attendance in government offices was thin. Essential services and public transport, however, functioned normally. According to an official spokesman, the bundh passed off peacefully, barring one or two incidents of attempted arson and violence. Police and paramilitary forces have intensified patrolling in all sensitive areas and special pickets have been set at all strategic points. A strict vigil is being maintained all over Punjab to ward off any untoward incident.

In Haryana, all educational institutions remained closed. Buses in the state plied as usual, but service to Punjab has been stopped. Offices and banks functioned as usual. The state chief secretary, Mr L.C. Gupta, told newsmen in Chandigarh that two persons were killed in mob violence at Hissar and Yamuna Nagar. He said two trains were held up at a station in Sonipat District but they were allowed to move without any untoward incident. Mr Gupta said curfew imposed on S[illegible] town early this morning following an incident was later lifted. He said communal harmony and amity will be maintained in the state at all cost.

In Himachal Pradesh, the statewide bundh passed off peacefully, barring some stray incidents. The state chief secretary told our Simla correspondent that elaborate police arrangements have been made and the Indo-Tibetan Border Police has been asked to be ready for deployment to assist the administration. The interstate bus service was suspended for the day today. The night bus service in the areas bordering Punjab has been curtailed.

In Jammu and Kashmir, near total bundh was observed in Jammu City, Udhampur, Ranvirsinghpura, Mian Sahib and other places. Lawyers in Jammu city abstained from court. However, government offices and banks functioned normally.

No untoward incident has been reported from any part of the capital today. According to a spokesman of the Delhi police the Army continues to stand-by in sensistive areas, which include Houz Kazi, Gandhinagar, Tilak Nagar and Kalkaji. Police patrolling has been intensified and strict vigil is being main-

tained. Meanwhile, indefinite curfew is enforced in Houz Kazi and some parts of Kamla Market police stations following stabbing incidents in Pharaskhana area in the Walled City last night. Six persons were injured, two of them later succumbed to injury.

Delhi police have made elaborate arrangements to maintain law and order during the bundh tomorrow. The call for the bundh has been given by the Bharatiya Janata Party, the Janata Party, and the Delhi state Akali Dal-Longowal group, to protest against the massacre of innocent bus passengers. Essential services like electricity, water, and health services have been exempted from purview of the bundh. According to a spokesman of the Delhi administration DTC [Delhi Transport Corporation] buses will not ply tomorrow as a precautionary measure. All schools in the capital have been advised not to function.

In Haryana, the Army has been alerted and asked to move at short notice to assist the civil authorities in maintaining law and order in the state. The state director general of police told our Chandigarh correspondent that the Army today staged a flag march in various towns of the state to infuse confidence among the people of all communities.

The union home minister, Mr Buta Singh, today flew to Fatehbadh in Hissar District. He visited the civilian hospital to inquire about the condition of the injured passengers. Mr Buta Singh conveyed his condolences and sympathies to the bereaved families.

The Punjab governor and the Haryana chief minister reviewed the latest law-and-order situation in the two states and the union territory of Chandigarh at a high-level meeting in Chandigarh today. Later, briefing newsmen the Punjab governor said the meeting discussed a joint strategy to combat terrorism in the region. It was decided that the directors general of the police of Punjab and Haryana should remain in constant touch with each other.

The meeting of opposition leaders in parliament with the prime minister had unanimously condemned the killings of the bus passengers in Punjab and Haryana. They appealed to the people to remain calm and exercise the fullest self-control. Any retaliation of violence would only serve the cause of the terrorists. It appealed to the people to frustrate the attempts of terrorists on any provocation. The leaders also urged the people to cooperate in maintaining communal harmony. The meeting of the opposition leaders in parliament was called by the prime minister in New Delhi today.

The meeting, which lasted for more than 2 hours, discussed the situation arising out of the killings of bus passengers in Punjab and Haryana. Opposition leaders made several suggestions while the home minister, Mr Buta Singh, apprised them of the steps taken to meet the situation. It has been decided that they will meet again to discuss other suggestions. The next meeting is expected to take place in the next 10 to 12 days before the monsoon session of parliament begins.

Giving a detailed account of the incidents in Punjab and Haryana, the home minister apprised the opposition leaders about his talks with senior officials of the two state governments. He said all precautions, which have been taken on Punjab for sometime now, will also be taken in Haryana. There will be armed escorts of buses and train services. Railway stations, bus terminals, and petrol pumps will be guarded. Special vigilance will be exercised where people are likely to gather. There will be intelligence sharing between the states of Punjab, Haryana, and the union territory of Delhi on a continuous basis. This will be extended to the neighboring states also. The information network in Chandigarh will be fully activated round the clock. Passengers will be frisked before embarking the buses or trains. There will be frisking at cinema houses also.

The home minister informed the opposition members that since the promulgation of president's rule there there has been no political interference in the release of arrested persons. Opposition leaders urged the government to weed out police personnel who are having any collusion with the terrorists. They also said that religious places should not be allowed to be used for storage of arms. They said the government should feel inhibited [as heard] for using the army. The prime minister said we have exhausted all avenues of civilian authority before calling the army. [passage omitted]

Punjab 'Terrorist' Hideouts Raided

BK081050 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1038 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] Punjab police and paramilitary forces are carrying out raids on suspected hideouts of terrorists all over state to nab culprits responsible for Monday night massacre of bus passengers near Lalru. About a dozen suspects were rounded up from Mohali near Chandigarh during searches. Two persons were shot dead last night, July 7, in two separate incidents of terrorist activity in Sultanpur Lodhi in Kapurthala District and in Ajnala in Amritsar District.

Haryana 'Terrorists' Identified

BK090316 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 9 Jul 87

[Text] The Punjab police has established the identity of the group of terrorists responsible for the killing of bus passengers near Fatehabad in Haryana on Tuesday night. According to the Punjab police chief, Ribeiro, police parties have been sent to different places to apprehend the culprits. He said the group responsible for the Lalru killings near Chandigarh is different from this group. He said raids on suspected hideouts of the terrorists are continuing and the police is hopeful of apprehending the culprits soon.

Meanwhile, the terrorists killed seven persons in two incidents early this morning. In Faridkot District, a CPI leader, Mr Sukhender Singh, his two sons, a daughter, a relation, and the police bodyguard were shot dead in village Choganan under Maina police station. In Gurdaspur District, a senior Akali Dal-Longowal group leader, Jathedar Pritam Singh, was shot dead by terrorists in his village Ratwal near Dhariwal. The victim was also vice president of the Gurdaspur agricultural marketing committee.

Curfew Imposed in Rishikesh

BK090324 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 9 Jul 87

[Text] In Uttar Pradesh, indefinite curfew has been imposed in Rishikesh town following violent incidents. Four persons were killed in arson and firing yesterday. An official spokesman told our Lucknow correspondent that Army has been called out to assist the district administration in maintaining law and order. The state government has directed all the district magistrates in the sensitive areas to keep a constant vigil and maintain law and order in the wake of killings.

In Himachal Pradesh, Army was called out yesterday in Kulu to assist the civil administration following some incidents of arson and violence. Carrying of arms and taking out of processions have been banned for a month. Educational institutions will remain closed in Kulu District for 3 days.

Norwegian Prime Minister Departs Delhi for Pune

BK080920 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] The prime minister of Norway, Mrs Brundtland, left New Delhi for Pune this morning after a 2-day stay in the capital. She was seen off at the airport by the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, and several of his ministerial colleagues.

Talking to an All India Radio correspondent before emplaning, Mrs Brundtland described her visit as meaningful.

She said she is looking forward to warm and good relations with India.

About her talks with Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Norwegian prime minister said these were very open.

Another Relief Supply Ship Leaves for Sri Lanka

BK080345 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] The Indian ship, *Island Pride*, left Madras port this morning with the third consignment of relief supplies for the people of Jaffna.

According to the zonal manager of the Food Corporation of India, three more ships carrying relief supplies will leave Madras in another month's time.

Tehran Cites AP Report on Attack of U.S. Tanker

LD091125 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 9 Jul 87

[Text] According to an AP report from Manama, marine rescue sources reported on Thursday that an Iranian gunboat, by firing RPG missiles, hit and set ablaze a large U.S. oil tanker named *Peconic*, 100 kilometers from the Kuwaiti oil terminal of Ahmadi. According to this report, the tanker is registered in Liberia and belongs to the American company, Universe. AP adds that the oil tanker *Peconic* was attacked at 1100 and sent out distress signals. Rescue boats were dispatched to assist this U.S. oil tanker.

On the basis of this report, the attack on the large oil tanker *Peconic* was clearly made in retaliation for at least two Iraqi attacks on oil tankers in the Persian Gulf during the current week.

U.S. Planes Sent To Check Silkworm Missile Sites

LD081601 Tehran IRNA in English 1544 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] Washington, July 6, IRNA — U.S. Navy planes flew over the Persian Gulf "over the weekend" (Saturday and Sunday) in an operation intended to "knock out" Iranian antiship missiles, *The Washington Post* reported Monday.

Quoting officials in the U.S. Department of Defence, the report said that the operation was "a precautionary measure" and did not represent a decision by Reagan to destroy the missiles in "a preemptive strike."

It also claimed that the operation was launched after the United States "detected preparations to make the Iranian Silkworm missiles operational." Planes from the *USS Constellation*, steaming outside the Persian Gulf in the Gulf of Oman, returned to the aircraft carrier "without dropping bombs or firing missiles."

The report did not say how the "detection" took place but added that U.S. satellites and electronic eavesdropping devices aboard its ships and planes in the Persian Gulf "keep track of Silkworm locations in Iran."

Iranian officials have said their antiship missiles are mobile and can be moved to other locations within minutes.

White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater denied *The Post's* report claiming that the aircrafts from the carrier *USS Constellation* were launched to escort the warship *USS Stark* out of the Persian Gulf on its way back to the United States. The *Stark* was struck by an Iraqi Exocet missile in the Persian Gulf last May which left 37 U.S. servicemen killed and 19 injured. It underwent repairs in Bahrain before heading back to the United States a few days ago.

The Post claimed that Iran "suspended the preparatory work on the missiles before the (Reagan) administration had to decide whether to make a preemptive strike."

Meanwhile, there has been no official American response to the Soviet demand Saturday that U.S. warships should be removed from the Persian Gulf.

White House Chief of Staff, Howard Baker said Sunday in an interview that the United States might reconsider its plan to escort Kuwaiti ships in the Persian Gulf if the Soviet ships leave the area.

Baker has previously contradicted other administration officials by welcoming joint U.S.-Soviet presence in the Persian Gulf to so-called "safeguard" freedom of shipping through the vital waterway.

Later Reagan emphasized that major purpose of increased U.S. presence in the region was in fact a response to new Soviet presence in an area "vital to the West."

USSR Plane Carrying Armed Men Lands in Zabol

LD081104 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, an unidentified plane carrying a number of armed passengers and ammunition landed at Zabol Airport yesterday.

It is said that this plane probably belongs to the USSR. According to the Central News Unit, the relevant responsible officials are investigating the matter.

Chief Justice Warns of 'Unwise' U.S. Move in Gulf

LD081904 Tehran IRNA in English 1828 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] Mashhad, July 8, IRNA — Chief Justice Ayatollah 'Abdolkarim Musavi-Ardabili said here Wednesday that Iraqi Ba'thist ruler had lost the imposed-war and the commotion generated in Persian Gulf by global arrogance could not save Saddam.

Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili who was addressing a multitudinous group of people in Mashhad said that security would be maintained in the Persian Gulf if superpowers would leave Saddam unaided.

The chief justice warned that the U.S. might start "an unwise" move in the Persian Gulf. "In that case we should prepare ourselves to defend our Islamic dignity."

He said that Reagan whose popularity in the U.S. is at the lowest wanted to divert U.S. public opinion towards the Persian Gulf in order to cover up his domestic problems.

On U.N. Security Council's efforts on the Iraqi imposed war, he noted that despite the Security Council's decision Iran would continue the war till its demands were met.

Ayatollah Ardabili condemned the recent troublesome acts in France, Britain and Lebanon and stressed that "we have decided to live honorably and independently".

Rezai'e Discusses Missiles, 'Martyrdom Maneuvers'
LD081849 Tehran IRNA in English 1833 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] Tehran, July 8, IRNA — Commander of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) Mohsen Rezai'e announced Wednesday that plans of the Islamic Republic Army and IRGC to confront the U.S. plots in the Persian Gulf were approved by Supreme Defence Council.

Rezai'e in a live televized interview said that Iran duplicated the missiles seized in the city of Al-Faw in February 1986 and reproduced them with some changes.

If Iran had launched one of these missiles at the *'USS Stark'* while the warship were being escorted out of the Persian Gulf waters last Friday, it would have been cut in two, Rezai'e added.

Rezai'e announced that the Persian Gulf defenders would shortly carry out 'martyrdom manoeuvers' in Gulf of Oman, Strait of Hormuz and the Persian Gulf waters, displaying all 'martyrdom-seeking' tactics, plans and attacks of Muslim forces.

IRGC commander noted that lots of letters from Islamic states and world Muslims had reached Iranian authorities asking permission to attack the U.S. interests and embassies but that the Iranian officials had yet withheld permission.

Velayati Interviewed on Developments in Gulf War
AU071648 Vienna PROFIL in German
No 27/6 Jul 87 pp 43-44

[Interview with Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati by Michael Siegert; date and place not given]

[Text] *Profil*: Mr Velayati, will you fire on the 11 Kuwaiti tankers that will soon sail through the Gulf under U.S. flags and with U.S. escorts?

Velayati: In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. We will act in accordance with our national and regional interests. Iran does not intend to attack any ships or to bring disquiet to the region.

Profil: But your country speaks of retaliatory attacks, of "bitter lessons" for the United States.

Velayati: When our tankers, ports, and oil installations are attacked, we will defend ourselves and retaliate. This does not mean, however, that we will start the attacks.

Profil: What do you have against Kuwait?

Velayati: We have repeatedly warned the Kuwaitis that our patience with them is running out. They are financing the Iraqi Government; Iraqi planes fly over Kuwaiti territory before they attack Iranian ships. A large part of the Iraqi arms are unloaded in Kuwaiti ports. Peace and security around Kuwait is possible only when the country does not take sides.

Profil: What would you do otherwise?

Velayati: The Kuwaitis are very vulnerable and, furthermore, they are our direct neighbors. You know, if we decide to respond to the hostile acts, it would be very easy for us. We do not have to attack Kuwaiti tankers; we can cause them a lot of other problems.

Profil: Do you expect the two superpowers to close ranks against you? The Soviet Union has also offered support to Kuwait.

Velayati: We will never hesitate to defend our rights if we are attacked.

Profil: Whom do you fear more, the United States or the USSR?

Velayati: We only fear God, no one else.

Profil: Does an escalation of the Gulf war not entail the danger for you that the superpowers might interfere and divide the region among themselves, as the Soviets and British divvied up Iran in World War II?

Velayati: The Persian Gulf region is very sensitive. If something uncontrollable happens there, it will have extensive consequences and everyone will suffer.

Profil: Thus, you hold a similar opinion to that of the late Leonid Brezhnev, who used the term "powder keg" for the Gulf region? Before World War I this term was applied to the Balkans, whose conflicts triggered a conflagration.

Velayati: No region in history has ever been as explosive as this one. What is at stake is the oil, the economy, and life in the world.

Profil: What about the chances for a truce? Would you be satisfied if the Iraqi military were to topple President Saddam Husayn and offer to negotiate?

Velayati: We only want the Iraqi people themselves to decide on their government and their fate. It is our condition that this regime has to disappear, that means Saddam Husayn and his clique, who are responsible for this war. Furthermore, we demand compensation for the damage caused to us.

Profil: The Gulf war has already been going on longer than World War II. Is there no other way than shooting?

Velayati: There is only one way; namely, the disappearance of the regime in Iraq. If the arms deliveries to Iraq stop, the regime will be gone tomorrow. France supplies Iraq with Mirage planes, the Soviet Union delivers MIG's, and the United States passes on military information from espionage satellites. Kuwait gives money; Egypt and Jordan make soldiers, experts, and weapons available. Those who claim to be neutral in this war support this regime's war crimes with their silence.

Profil: Austria delivered cannons and an ammunition plant to Iraq. Has your respect for our country been diminished by this?

Velayati: We have not been officially informed about this by your government.

Profil: Have you purchased directly or indirectly Austrian cannons? We believe that you bought 40 to 100 GHN-45 cannons from the VOEST nationalized Austrian steel company.

Velayati: This is not true.

Profil: Did you not say that you captured Austrian cannons from Iraq?

Velayati: I did not say anything about Austrian cannons from the Iraqis. We have different kinds of weapons from various states.

Profil: You purchased arms from the United States. Does it not bother you that the Reagan Administration used the money to finance the Contras; that is, it was used against Nicaragua, a Third World country that like you is struggling for its independence?

Velayati: If we had known that the money would be used by the Americans in this way, we would not have made these purchases.

Profil: Are the Iranians who were partners of North and McFarlane on your side now being punished?

Velayati: Absolutely not, because actually these people only helped us exercise our right to weapons that belonged to us and were held back by the Americans.

Profil: Did you invite President Waldheim to visit Iran?

Velayati: Yes.

Profil: When will it take place?

Velayati: We have not fixed any specific date.

Profil: What do you think about the attacks on Waldheim?

Velayati: We consider them as pressure exerted on Waldheim by the Zionists. We consider it an insult to the Austrian people. The people elected him president in a democratic way, as is usual in this country. They are not children but adults endowed with reason. They are the same people as they were yesterday and will be tomorrow. A small minority must not exert pressure on this state, in particular since they do not have a good reputation themselves with regard to humaneness.

Profil: Do you consider the accusations against Waldheim incorrect?

Velayati: The Zionists have an unjustifiably great influence on many governments and states. They create an artificial atmosphere, force their plans on others, and cook their soup that others have to eat. We are of the opinion that under these circumstances it would be wrong to accede to this. One would only be caught in their trap. Your president is the same Waldheim who had been UN secretary general for 10 years without anybody being able to accuse him of anything.

Profil: What should we do in your opinion?

Velayati: We have a saying: The family members know best what is going on within the family, not the others. Mr Waldheim is a citizen of this state. He is an Austrian and you all know how Mr Waldheim was in former times, what he did, and what he did not do. You elected him. Now suddenly the Zionists come and put a question mark above him, although they have not been able to supply a single shred of evidence. I would like to give you some good advice: As the people of Austria you should protect your national identity and honor and should reject outside interference and attacks. There may be differences of opinion between your parties, but these you can sort out yourselves after you have rejected blackmail and pressure from abroad.

Profil: Mr Velayati, Amnesty International accuses Iran of having executed at least 115 people last year, including 6 men and 2 women by stoning.

Velayati: We do not permit another country to subject our country to political oppression under the pretense of human rights. It is a lie that people were stoned in Iran, at least not last year. We will protect the Islamic legal system, which we consider best. Why are some Europeans trying to impose their values on other people?

Profil: We abolished capital punishment 4 decades ago. Until then we might have been accused as well of having such a backward instrument in our legal system.

Velayati: We think that there is an eternal law: If someone deliberately kills another person, he has to be killed. Only those who are afraid of execution will be beware of killing.

Profil: But having a different political opinion is no reason for execution.

Velayati: In the Islamic Republic there has not been a single incident in which a person was executed only because he held a differing political opinion.

Profil: We quoted Amnesty International.

Velayati: Amnesty International is only an instrument of the British Government.

Khamene'i Calls on SAIRI To Escalate Activities

LD081538 Tehran IRNA in English 1458 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] Sanandaj, July 8 IRNA — President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i in a message sent to the fourth extraordinary plenary session of Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI) called on the Assembly to boost up its political activities.

In another part of the message to the meet which opened here Wednesday President Khamene'i expressed hope that all Sunni and Shi'ite groups including Kurds, Arabs and Turkomans would

unitedly endeavor to bring about Saddam's downfall and liberate the oppressed Iraqi people as well as try to attract more people to the Islamic revolution of Iraq.

The Kordestan Province governor general in a speech at the meeting said that everyone should join hands to rescue the oppressed Iraqi people from the tyranny of the Baghdad regime.

On the Iraqi-imposed war he said that it was not a war between Iraq and Iran but a war of the two nations against Saddam and global arrogance.

Another speaker at the session was Imam Khomeyni's representative to Kordestan Province who expressed hope that SAIRI along with the informed Kurdish ulema in the region would unite the Muslims.

The SAIRI's head Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Baqer Hakim was the last speaker of the day who recounted the achievements of SAIRI's third plenary session adding that SAIRI was able to mobilize lots of Iraqi mujahidin and refugees who had an eminent role in "Karbala'-5" operations.

Another achievement of SAIRI's third plenary session, according to Hojjat ol-Eslam Hakim, was its active participation in Iraqi people's cooperation conference in Tehran.

SAIRI's head said that Iran would surely gain the final victory specially now that the Islamic revolution of Iraq has appeared as a 'living truth'.

Pointing out that the massive presence of Iraqi people in the fight against Ba'th regime was another major change since the third plenary session, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hakim added that more than 1200 Iraqi Mojahidin were killed in prisons in Iraq since then.

Khomeyni Meets With Martyrs' Families in Tehran

LD081359 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] On the auspicious birthday of His Great Holiness Imam Reza, peace be upon him, the families of the martyrs, missing fighters, and POWs from the towns of Borujerd and Azadshahr, and also a group of families of Tehran martyrs from the district around the Ayatollah Sa'idi Mosque, met with the imam of the ummah in Hoseyniyah Jamaran [Ayatollah Khomeyni's residence] this morning. The meeting was also attended by the commanders of major units of the ground forces and Brigadier General Sohrabi, chief of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Mr Karrubi, the imam's representative and the supervisor of the Martyr's Foundation, who is also the deputy speaker of the Islamic Majlis, while offering congratulations on the occasion of Islam on the battlefronts, declared the readiness of the various strata of the people to crush conspiracies of global arrogance in the Persian Gulf, particularly the United States. He cited examples of selflessness and self-sacrifice among the personnel in the heroic Armed Forces in defense of the Islamic Republic and referred to the devotion and self-sacrifice of the martyrs and their families. On behalf of the imam of the ummah, he offered congratulations and condolences to the families and conveyed the imam of the ummah's gratitude and praise to them. At the end of the meeting, the imam of the ummah graciously responded to the sentiments expressed by the audience.

Minister Protests World Health Session Venue

NC070852 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0330 GMT 7 Jul 87

[Text] Mr Marandi, minister of health, treatment, and medical education, has sent a letter of protest to Mr Husayn 'Abd al-Razzaq al-Jazayri, director for the Eastern Mediterranean region of WHO, regarding the convocation of the 43d session of the WHO regional committee that is scheduled to be held in Baghdad in the month of Mehr [23 September-22 October].

The letter states: The Iraqi regime, through its use of chemical weapons, continues its mischief-mongering among the civilians in cities and the Kurdish Iraqi people. The sad results of these inhuman acts, which are clear to all, evoke the condemnation of the peoples of the world. However, the Iraqi regime insists on flouting all accepted international norms, in particular the 1925 Geneva Convention.

The letter continues: Under these conditions and because Iraq ignores WHO's interests, the Islamic Republic of Iran believes that the Iraqi regime is not qualified to host a session regarding health problems and the welfare of the region's needy nations. We request that the attention of members be drawn to these unfortunate circumstances and that the venue for the session be changed to WHO's Central Headquarters in Geneva.

In addition, Mr Marandi once again reminded him of the Islamic Republic of Iran's invitation and stated that in light of the resolutions passed at the 32d and 33d sessions of the regional committee, the 35th session should be held in Tehran. A copy of this letter was also sent to WHO Director-General Dr Mahlet in Geneva, requesting his intervention and speedy action.

Further on Visit of GDR Chemical Industry Minister

'Memorandum' Detailed

NC070820 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0330 GMT 7 Jul 87

[Text] The volume of annual trade exchange between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the GDR is to reach $300 million. According to a Central News Unit correspondent, a memorandum of understanding was signed at the last meeting between GDR Chemical Industry Minister Wyschofsky and our country's Industries Minister Mr Shafe'i yesterday afternoon.

According to the correspondent, exports between the two countries are expected to total $300 million, evenly divided. The GDR has agreed to 30 percent of its imports being nonoil goods, including staple goods, cast iron, lead and zinc concentrate, chrome ore, textiles, dry fruits, canned fruits, and other food products. The memorandum of understanding also stipulates

that the GDR will purchase 500,000 tons of oil from the Islamic Republic of Iran annually, a figure which could be increased to 1 million tons.

In an interview with our correspondent, Industries Minister Shafe'i explained the details of the memorandum of understanding.

[Begin Shafe'i recording] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. According to the memorandum of understanding, the GDR will import at least 500,000 tons of our oil, but this figure could increase to 1 million tons. Commercial exchanges will total $300 million, with Iran selling $150 million in goods to the GDR and vice versa. As a result of a similar agreement last year, each country now has a balance of $40 million in goods it can import.

Topics discussed with the GDR delegation were the ceramics industry, geological surveys for clay, crockery, and exchange of technology in the field of textile machinery. The two sides also concurred in extending last year's agreement on fishing and diesel generators. Two other topics from last year, the Ahvaz survey and the metallurgical complex, were also examined, with the delegations agreeing to follow up on these issues in a more practical manner. [end recording]

Departure Statement

NC071036 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0430 GMT 7 Jul 87

[Text] Mr Wyschofsky, the GDR chemical industry minister who visited Tehran at the head of an economic delegation, left Tehran for Berlin this morning. During his 2-day stay in Tehran, Wyschofsky held talks with our country's officials. He was seen off by Mr Shafe'i, our industries minister.

In a brief interview with our correspondent prior to his departure, he said: Our visit was most successful. We signed an economic protocol with Iran for cooperation in various fields, and we held talks with at least 10 ministers and high-level officials. We discussed economic issues and mutual exchanges concerning the transfer of technology. We also reviewed international political issues and disarmament. The GDR chemical industry minister thanked our countries' officials for their warm welcome.

Special Clerical Courts To Be Established

LD081158 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 6 Jul 87

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Fallahian, special prosecutor for the Clerical Court, announced in a press interview this afternoon that, as a result of the declaration by the imam of ummah, special clerical courts are to be set up in the five cities of Qom, Esfahan, Tabriz, Mashhad, and Shiraz in addition to Tehran. Such a court will also be set up in any city were there is a need.

He added: The court will officially begin work Wednesday and it will only investigate counterrevolutionary crimes, corruption, prostitution, and any other crime contrary to the nature of the clergy. All pseudo-clergy whose competence has not been confirmed by religious centers and responsible officials will be dealt with severely. He went on to say that the court will deal only with the stated crimes and that all ordinary crimes will be dealt with by the public courts. He also noted that the offenders will be dealt with severely.

In conclusion, he asked the martyr-nurturing ummah to contact the special clerical court's office in the Evin prosecutor's office, if they have any information.

'Defenders of Gulf' Convoy Departs From Yazd

NC080536 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0430 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Excerpt] In the second phase of the dispatch of the Defenders of the Gulf to the fronts, a large number of volunteer combatant brothers left for the operational sectors. The forces for the defense of the Islamic territory in the form of a convoy of Imam 'Ali ibn-e Musa Reza (AS), consisting of combat-specialist forces from the cities, districts, and countryside in Yazd Province, left for the Fronts of Right Versus Wrong.

Combat Operations Continue in War With Iraq

Iraqi Ships, Oil Platforms Hit

LD081453 Tehran IRNA in English 1432 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., July 8, IRNA — Some Iraqi gunboats appeared in Khawr 'Abdallah waters were forced to flee by heavy Iranian naval fire, last night. [sentence as received]

Iraqi command headquarters in Al-Bakr and Al-Amaya platforms sustained damage when heavy Iranian naval fire hit two of their platforms over the past two days. Parts of Iraqi positions on the platforms were also set afire.

Meanwhile, scores of Iraqi soldiers were killed and wounded when Muslim combatants of Iran heavily shelled Iraqi positions in southern operational regions. Ten individual bunkers, seven tanks and personnel carriers as well as four engineering vehicles were also destroyed over Tuesday and Wednesday in the shelling.

Kurds Set Garrison on Fire

LD081523 Tehran IRNA in English 1434 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] Bakhtaran, July 8, IRNA — The Iraqi garrison of Arbat, the supply center for the Iraqi Ba'thist First Corps, was set afire Monday by a joint group of Muslim combatants and Iraqi Kurdish Peshmergas. The garrison's gas station, several vehicles and five tanks and personnel carriers were destroyed while administrative buildings sustained damage covering 50 percent.

According to the report a reassembled enemy counterattack on Muslim combatants in Shahruz region was crushed, forcing the enemy to retreat sustaining heavy casualties.

Meanwhile, Kurdish Muslim Peshmergas along with Iranian Muslim combatants killed 30 Iraqi Ba'thist troops in a three-hour clash in Rostam Beig [name as received] base, in Al-Sulaymaniyah Province, Tuesday. Four vehicles were destroyed in the clash and lots of damage inflicted on the base.

Communique No 2,891

LD081537 Tehran IRNA in English 1515 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] Tehran, July 8, IRNA — Some 15 foreign tankers and cargo ships were intercepted in the Strait of Hormuz by Iranian Navy Tuesday but were allowed to proceed on their voyage after thorough inspection confirmed there was no Iraq-bound cargo aboard, said a military communique here Wednesday.

Iraqi war planes bombed a village in the vicinity of Iranian town of Sardasht at 10:30 hours local time (07:30 GMT) Tuesday during which six innocent civilians were martyred and five others injured.

The 2891st communique of the Joint Staff said that heavy Iranian artillery fire killed and wounded some Iraqi soldiers in northern Bubiyan and Khushk regions yesterday. Several gun-emplacements and observation posts two munitions depots as well as a vehicle of enemy forces were set ablaze and destroyed in the shelling, it added.

In northwestern fronts, the communique said, an Iranian patrol unit discovered a considerable number of light weapons, individual equipment as well as chemical warfare gear belonging to the Ba'thist forces and carried them to their base.

An Iraqi patrol group which attempted to penetrate Iranian positions in Kharratha region early Tuesday was forced to flee by heavy fire of the Muslim combatants, said the communique.

Iran's gendarmerie forces killed and wounded some Iraqi troops in southern regions Tuesday, destroying several gun-emplacements and observation posts of theirs, it said.

Khomeyni Proposes Khamene'i for New Post

NC071015 (Clandestine) Voice of the Kavyani Banner of Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 6 Jul 87

[Text] Our cocombatants report from Tehran that Ruhollah Khomeyni has requested from his close associates that, on the expiration of his presidential term, Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i be appointed chairman of the Supreme Judicial Council in place of 'Abdol Karim Musavi-Ardabili. The report states that Khomeyni, by making such a request, is trying to make provisions for the fact that Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i should not be totally removed from politics.

Informed sources in Tehran say that the Islamic regime is creating a space for Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i because there is a great possibility that he and his associates of the dissolved IRP might otherwise embark on political activity against the Hashemi-Rafsanjani-Ahmad Khomeyni clique, thus driving a wedge into the government ranks.

Security Officials Posing as Clergy in Qom

NC080747 (Clandestine) Voice of the Kavyani Banner of Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Jul 87

[Excerpt] According to our cocombatants, the Revolution Guards have sent some of their most ruthless security officials to Qom, instructing them to don clerical robes. These pseudo-clerics have been assigned the duty of spying on the clergymen's activities and providing information on those clergymen who are opposed to the regime.

Our cocombatants in Qom report that these impostors have been asked to confront the clergymen as soon as they receive orders from Tehran and to defame and insult the Qom seminarians.

Clandestine Radio on Power Cuts, Cabinet Disunity

NC080858 (Clandestine) Voice of the Kavyani Banner of Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Jul 87

[Text] Reports received from Tehran state that daytime power outages are causing immense hardships on small businesses and the people, especially professionals and vendors, and are adversely affecting production.

The consecutive power cuts in the past few years, which are a result of the dilapidated state of the power stations and a lack of generating equipment, stem from the fact that the government has concentrated all its efforts on the war and has slashed a major part of the Energy Ministry's budget.

Some time ago former Energy Minister Banki vehemently attacked Prime Minister Musavi at a Cabinet meeting and refused to shoulder the responsibility for power cuts.

Following this showdown, Banki did not enter the ministry building for a week and when he did not receive the required sum for the purchase of equipment, he officially tendered his resignation. Prime Minister Musavi laid the blame on him, saying that people should not expect any power supply and should get used to it. It is being said in the ministry that Banki did not have any money and the people do not have any electricity.

Our combatants report from Tehran that it is rumored that, as was the case with Banki, other ministers have been absenting themselves from Cabinet meetings.

Among the ministers who have submitted resignation letters out of utter dissatisfaction is Foreign Minister Velayati, who is very peeved at government foreign policy but is mostly vexed at those deputies thrust upon the ministry who have caused so many crises and foul-ups in the regime's ties with other countries. They are the ones who hold the reins of all diplomatic activity in their hands and have transformed the Foreign Ministry into a cosmetic organization.

It should be mentioned that Velayati's deputies have been imposed upon him by the regime's Intelligence and Information Center. Javad Mansuri, who was formerly head of intelligence in the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC], was a favorite of IRGC Commander Mohsen Rezai'e. The former IRGC Min-

ister Rafiqdust appointed Javad Larijani deputy foreign minister out of sheer rivalry with Mohsen Rezai'e. Another deputy foreign minister, Sheykh ol-Eslam, who is head of the office of the consolidation of unity among students [as heard], an organization which is an instrument of repression, is a planner of terrorist activities of the so-called imam's line. Also, Mojtaba Mir-Mehdi, who works directly with intelligence and information, is one of those appointed on the recommendation of Reyshahri, the regime's minister of information and intelligence.

Our cocombatants add that Dr Velayati and Mohammad Gharazi are also vying for the post of prime minister in the event of a possible resignation or dismissal of Prime Minister Musavi.

Junejo Not Ruling Out 'Foreign Hand' in Blasts

BK080824 Karachi Overseas Service in English
0800 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, has said the government is tightening security measures to check the activities of subversive elements at all important places including railway stations. He was talking to newsmen at the Lahore railway station after visiting the site of the bomb explosion on platform No 2. He said it is the responsibility of the government to protect the life of the people and it would fulfill this responsibility. Replying to a question, the prime minister said special tribunals have been set up in the NWFP for trial of subversive elements. There would be no delay in meting out speedy punishment to such elements who are responsible for bomb explosions. He said the Federal Ministry of Justice is examining the relevant laws for making them more effective and ensure speedy justice in such cases. Replying to another question about the possible involvement of any foreign hand in such incidents, the prime minister said such involvement cannot be ruled out. He called on the people to extend all possible help to the government to curb the activities of saboteurs.

Earlier, immediately on his arrival in Lahore, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo drove straight to the Mayo Hospital where he inquired about the well-being of each injured person and expressed sympathies to them.

Radio Notes Iranian Involvement in Karachi Attack

BK081535 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] A press release issued today by the commissioner of Karachi Division says that at about 0430 [2330 GMT] this morning three houses and two apartments in the (?Defense) Society and (Kristan) areas were attacked, resulting in the death of one person and the injury of five others. The people involved in the attack are Iranians and belong to various groups. The three houses were severely damaged. Several automatic weapons, bombs, and rocket launchers have been recovered from the buildings. These also include weapons which are said to have been used by the attackers. The district administration and the police reached the spot immediately and cordoned off the area to protect the people. Several persons have been arrested and investigations into the incident are continuing.

Homes of Iranian Nationals Attacked in Quetta

BK081617 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 8 Jul 87

[Text] In Quetta at about 0430 [2330 GMT] this morning, some unknown persons attacked the houses of some Iranian nationals residing in Satellite Town and Railway Housing Society. As a result, 1 person was killed and 12 others injured who were rushed to Civil Hospital, Quetta, where they are being treated. The condition of one of the injured is serious. An offical spokesman told Radio Pakistan's Quetta representative this evening that the attackers used rocket launchers, hand grenades, and other automatic weapons. An inquiry into the incident has been ordered. Provincial Chief Minister Jam Mir Ghulam Qadir Khan visited the spot this afternoon.

Paper Views Measures Against Narcotics Trade

BK081103 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English
2 Jul 87 p 4

[By Rahimullah Yusufzai]

[Text] According to the latest official count, the number of drug addicts in Pakistan has risen to a whopping 1,901,225 which includes 657,842 addicted to heroin. Till recently the number of heroin addicts was estimated at more than 500,000 but fresh estimates signify a 31.8 percent increase. These dry statistics tend to confirm the widespread view that Pakistan, relatively heroin-free until 1980, is now confronted with a worrying drug abuse problem of its own.

Most of the people in the drug enforcement business are now convinced that abuse of narcotics is no longer a worry just of Western countries. In fact one American estimate put the number of newly-addicted Pakistanis at three times more than the Americans in a corresponding period. Local officials cite the case of Pakistan's North-West Frontier Province which serves as a base for drug traffickers to smuggle locally and Afghan-produced opium and refined heroin to illustrate their point that local populations are invariably affected by both drug trafficking and abuse. The number of drug-addicts in this strategically located province bordering wartorn Afghanistan is estimated at 300,000 including over 100,000 addicted to heroin.

These figures would certainly arouse scepticism in certain quarters as it is difficult to gather precise data. But such impersonal statistics do not convey the pain and anguish suffered by people whose lives are wrecked by drugs. Nor do they warn of the disintegration of societies locked in the grasp of illegal narcotics trafficking. Drug abuse has no boundaries as no country is completely immune. Men, women and even children can be counted among the victims who experience debilitating health problems as a result of their physical and psychological addiction. The decision to abuse drugs may be personal but its affects are not restricted to the individual. In fact drug abuse shatters families and weakens entire societies with its burden of economic losses, health costs and increased lawlessness and crime. Illicit drug traffic breeds corruption, undermines government processes, and political and economic stability, and plagues societies with acts of terrorism and other violent crime.

The U.N. International Narcotics Control Board reported in January 1986: "Whenever illicit cultivation, production and trafficking occur, abuse among local populations nearly always ensues. This accounts for the spread of drug abuse geographically beyond the few countries which once were the main centres of such abuse. The fact is that very few countries remain unaffected." Pakistan's case has been quoted as a classical example where the number of drug addicts rose to an alarming 500,000 in the span of only five years. Iran's Islamic Revolution and stricter control in the "Golden Triangle" straddling parts of Thailand, Laos and Burma prompted drug barons to shift their operations to the so-called "Golden Crescent" encompassing

Pakistan, Afghanistan and Iran. Although Western claims blaming the "Golden Crescent" region for being the greatest source of illegal heroin is sometimes disputed by governments in Iran and Afghanistan, it is a fact that problems of drug trafficking and abuse here were never so serious in the recent past. Opium production in Pakistan rose to 800 metric tonnes in 1979-80, which refines down to a tenth as much heroin, but a determined effort including crop- substitution and drug-enforcement led to the reduction in production of opium to about 200 tonnes in 1982 and 45 tonnes in 1984. Opium production however rose once more in 1985 and the estimates for 1986 were 130 metric tonnes, the main underlying cause being uncontrolled poppy-cultivation and production in Afghanistan.

Pakistan's efforts to ensure a drug-free society have convinced donor countries and aid agencies to fund programmes aimed at combating drug trafficking and abuse through phased poppy eradication and crop-substitution. Three comprehensive projects are underway in NWFP to provide alternative income opportunities for farmers in Buner sub-division of Swat district, Gadoon-Amazai area in Mardan and Abbottabad districts, and Malakand agency and Dir. The Buner project supported by the UNFDAC [expansion unknown] was launched in 1976 and has since been completed although more poppy-growing area nearby is planned to be included in the programme.

The U.S.-funded Gadoon-Amazai project was initiated in 1982 and is currently being implemented behind schedule due to a host of problems. The Malakand Agency and Dir district projects encompass both agricultural and development activities and like the earlier ones the stress is on coupling first-time enforcement of the government opium ban with inducements such as roads, electricity, tubewells and agricultural extension services. A recent innovation has been the declaration of formerly poppy-cultivation areas as industrial zones with a view to facilitate long-term rehabilitation, with Gadoon-Amazai having been designated as the first such industrial estate offering extraordinary incentives to entrepreneurs.

Pakistan's war against poppy entered an interesting stage this year when poppies on about 70,000 kanals [about 9681.88 acres] of land in Gadoon-Amazai were killed either through manual destruction or aerial spray. The 60-day operation stretching from Feb 16, 1987 to April 15 was ordered by the NWFP government when peaceful methods to convince the growers to voluntarily plough-up their poppy crops failed. It was a unique operation and the first one in this part of the world to destroy poppies through aerial spray. Government officials estimated that the destroyed poppies would have yielded 700 metric tonnes of opium which upon conversion into heroin would have produced 7000 kilograms valued at 700 million U.S. dollars in the international narcotics market. The operation was expedited as blooming poppies were already withering giving way to unripened seed capsules ready to be incised to release the alkaloid-rich latex which turns into opium upon drying. A workforce of about 500 policemen, levies and hired labour supported by an impressive array of logistics including 400 vehicles used for transportation weathered cold, rains and a hostile population to manually uproot or cut-down with a sickle all the Gadoon-Amazai poppies earning the gratitude of the provincial government.

The high-water-mark of the action was the pressing into service of the four UH-1H American helicopters loaned from the Army Aviation Corps to spray the poppies with the herbicide 2,4-D. It was a perilous operation as the army pilots defied narrow valleys and steep slopes to perform in contravention of normal flight security precautions. The spray continued despite widespread criticism and rumours that the herbicide had harmful side-effects on human beings, animals and crops like coriander, mustard and wheat.

The government's approach to the problem is cautious and paternal as it is worried lest there be a flare-up like the one in March 1986 which led to bloodshed and an uproar throughout the country. The poppy acreage in Gadoon-Amazai turned out to be much bigger than estimated in official records and by the Pakistan Narcotics Control Board. The authorities conceded that they had to redesign their strategy and stretch their logistics support to cope with the extra acreage. In the same context, officials believe that the war against narcotics has to be multipronged as the problem concerns not only poppy eradication and crop-substitution but also rehabilitation of drug addicts and well-being of the cultivators.

It is an established fact that poppy-cultivation is much more profitable than other crops, especially in view of the knowledge that poppies can grow even in the harshest of land where no other crops would even sprout. The earnings per acre is Rs. 820 more in case of poppies than other crops according to figures worked out by Engineer Fatehullah Khan, who is an expert on land and water development with the NWFP Chamber of Agriculture. A long-term solution has to be found to provide alternate means of income to farmers who are reluctant to forego the much more alluring poppy-cultivation.

Alongside efforts to eradicate poppies, which must be having the most profound and far-reaching effects on humanity both good and evil among the 400,000 species of plants known to the world, the Pakistan Government has accelerated its struggle to rehabilitate drug addicts by establishing detoxification centres all over the country. A preventive campaign pioneered by a host of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and supported by the government has buffeted allround efforts to inform and educate the people about the risks posed by drug abuse.